

A & B GO DOWN - A GAY VICTORY

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A & B GO DOWN - A GAY VICTORY

BARBAGELATA SCHEME FAILS: A & B LOSE

by Wayne Friday

Just over 50% of San Francisco's registered voters went to the polls Tuesday and handed both Propositions A and B a resounding defeat. Prop. B, the Barbagelata plan to recall the Mayor, Sheriff and the D.A., lost by a nearly 2 to 1 margin, while Prop. A, the plan to repeal District Elections, approved only last November, lost by a 58% to 42% margin.

The defeat of Prop. B was widely viewed as a strong endorsement of the Moscone administration. Barbagelata had charged that the city was being run by "radical" forces and, through his ballot proposition, had forced the Mayor to go before the voters in the middle of his four-year term. Moscone told his well-wishers that he would get on with the job of being Mayor, while Barbagelata, bitter in defeat, announced that he would indeed resign his seat on the Board of Supervisors and get out of city politics before the end of the year.

The defeat of Prop. A assures that San Francisco will elect the Board of Supervisors by district - 11 districts in all - for the



JOHN BARBAGELATA

first time in 70 years. As of election day, over 100 candidates had filed intent to run notices for the 11 seats. Now that District Elections have been assured, many more are expected to run. As one politico put it Tuesday night as the results became known, "They will really come out of the woodwork now."

Several of the present Supervisors are expected to retire from the Board - including Tamaras, Nelder, Francois, von Beroldingen and, of course, Barbagelata. Bob Mendelsohn is still waiting around hoping to be confirmed to the job with the Interior Dept. Of the present Supervisors who have already filed are Molinari, now living in District 3; Kopp in District 10; Gonzales in District 7; Pelosi in District 1; and Feinstein is expected to run in District 2.

Gay candidates for Supervisor will be running in many districts with the early favorites being Barry King in District 4 and Harvey Milk in District 5. More up-front Gays are expected to announce as well. Other candidates looked favorably upon by Gays are John Kekar (3); Carol Ruth Silver (6). Two well-known Blacks, Ella Hill Hutch and Arnold Townsend, are set to fight it out for the heavy Black vote in District 4. The whole thing is just starting, and new candidates will surface almost daily.

The defeat of both propositions in Tuesday's election was city-wide, with Prop. A losing big in both the 16th and 17th Assembly Districts but managing to eke out a

small victory in Barbagelata's home 18th Assembly District. Prop. B was defeated in all three city Assembly Districts. The election ended a long and sometimes bitter feud between the Mayor and Barbagelata - the conservative Barbagelata is now expected to make good his threat to get out of city politics, while many Moscone loyalists still hold out hope that the Mayor will someday end up in the Governor's job. The results Tuesday clearly make Moscone a big man in San Francisco - or as Willie Brown put it (with a definite lack of class, I might add) "It means that from now on, Moscone can kick ass."

The election night "NO ON A & B" victory party held at the Queen Adah Ballroom witnessed a joyous mingling of Gays, Blacks, Latins, Labor and Neighborhood Folk. "All recognized and applauded each other's efforts," according to one participant.

Harvey Milk, now the front runner in District 5, commented, "Last night's overwhelming victory was partially due to the incredible effort of many Gay women and men - working within the system - a voting giant has been awakened."

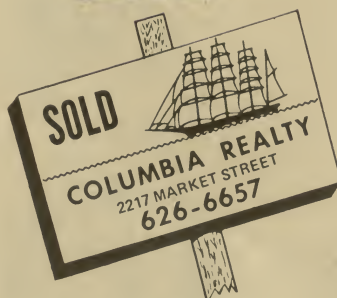
District 5, Milk's home territory and the largely Gay Castro area, turned down A and B by the largest percentage of all 11 districts. (Prop. A: 77% No, 23% Yes; Prop. B: 18% Yes, 82% No)

District 4 (Polk Street) came in with 74% No on A and 80% No on B.

Guys Raid Straight Bar

NEW YORK - In a dramatic switch from the days when police used to raid Gay bars, it was militant Gay activists who raided an upper East Side straight bar recently (July 28). More than 100 members of the Gay Activists Alliance stormed into Geordie's on Third Avenue at 82nd Street and occupied the establishment as part of a protest demonstration against a "fairy swatter" sign next to a large ax over the bar. The angry demonstrators chanted, "Take down the sign! Gay power now!" as they stomped their feet, pounded on tables, sounded loud whistles and other noisemakers and completely disrupted the operations of Geordie's, forcing the bar's paying customers to flee the din. The boisterous take-over of the bar continued into the wee hours of the morning. The Gays carried baseball bats and tomahawks labeled "bigot swatters."

Joe Kennedy, spokesperson for the New York Gay Activists Alliance, said, "The sign is offensive to Gay people. Its presence next to the ax can only be interpreted as encouraging violence against Gays. It is threatening, insulting and offensive - and it must go!" When the protestors finally left the bar to join a noisy Gay picket line in front of Geordie's, Kennedy said, "We have told the owner that that sign must go. Either that sign goes or Geordie's goes. This is their final warning."



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The Coors Empire & Gay Rights

PART II DID ANITA GET COORS MONEY?
ARE GAYS WELCOME AT COORS?

BY GEORGE MENDENHALL

THE COORS EMPIRE AND GAY RIGHTS

PART II

GOLDEN, COLO. - Driving along the five square miles here that is "Coors Country," one is awed by the enormity of the undertaking. When Adolph I founded the simple Coors brewery in 1873, no one envisioned that the Coors family would retain control of the factory and its many other enterprises for 104 years.

It is not possible to comprehend what the endless buildings mean unless one knows that much of the effort at Golden by the Coors family has been to form its own "country within a country." This deliberate isolation from the outside world is evident when one sees the many modern structures that not only house a skyscraper that is the brewery but a can and bottling factory, porcelain factory, railroad, hospital, power plant, police force and a fire department. It was all built by the Coors Construction Company. Inside this enterprise dog food is manufactured,

military ceramics for the airplane industry as well as toilets, beer, etc.

Over 3000 people tour the brewery daily - bused from downtown Golden in the Coors' fleet of buses. Once inside the ultra-modern tourist facility, with its beautiful lounges and free-beer bars, the tourist is enthralled. One sees the manufacturing of beer under the most hygienic conditions. ... Coors is a proud company that wishes to show the public its enormously successful financial empire.

Nothing is discussed on the tour about how Coors has also attempted to control the thoughts and working conditions of its 8000 employees. The Coors family, headed by Joe and Bill Coors, does not believe that either the government, any agency or union should control what it does in regard to employee relations. Coors pays well, and yet its history of labor strife over several decades is unequalled in American history.

Fifty percent of Coors employees are non-union, although some of these once belonged to unions that have now lost power

or been disbanded by the company's intimidation. Bill Coors, company President, recently told stockholders that there are 15 different unions at the Coors empire that are technically on strike. One of these strikes dates back to 1960 (the Electrical Workers). The classic example of how Coors treats its employees who go on strike for better working conditions is the current 4-month-old strike by Brewery Workers Local #366.

Not only does Coors wish to control every phase of production in its massive operation and its distribution, but it violates all of the common rules that are part of union labor contracts. With the Brewery Workers, it allowed the union/company contract to lapse at the beginning of the year. Coors had proposed changes in the new contract which would have deprived workers of their plant-wide seniority (by insisting that management be permitted to lay workers off by individual departments), asked that it be permitted to selectively call back workers from layoff (rather than by seniority), the right to give instant physical examinations (in the company hospital) to determine if an employee is physically able to do the work, and allowance for the company to schedule workers for 7-day

work weeks (rather than the traditional 5-day work week plus 2 days of rest).

Brewery Workers officials told this writer at their Golden headquarters that they cannot document whether Gay people are or are not hired by the company. What the company does remains confidential, but it is known that Joe Coors, Chairman of the Board, has given a great deal of his fortune to support Ronald Reagan for President while Reagan has stated that what Gay people need "is psychiatric care." Joe is supported by the John Birch Society (running Coors' ads in its publication, "National Opinion") which has vehemently attacked the Gay rights movement for many years. Coors also has established a private foundation (Heritage) in Washington, D.C., and other organizations (including one in San Mateo, California) which support extreme Right Wing politicians who have the lowest possible ratings with the American Civil Liberties Union.

Although it cannot be determined if Gay people work among the 8000 at Coors - no local Gay activist contacted could name even one, although Coors is the biggest employer in the area (next to Ma Bell). No factory worker on strike - and we talked with many - knew of a Gay person working in the factory. That is especially strange in Denver which has a large, upfront Gay working population.

It is common knowledge that the Coors family does not want "undesirables" and "trouble-makers" working in Golden. Its lie detector test attempts to screen out people with lifestyles other than the norm. One is not hired unless he can successfully answer personal questions about his conduct off the job while wired for the lie detector. And, once hired, one can be fired for "any just cause" - meaning any reason.

Although it is not known if any Gay person is working for Coors, it has been determined how

the company feels about hiring other minorities. At the time the current Brewery Workers strike was called in April, the brewery's 1500 workers only included 92 Chicanos, 59 Blacks, 1 Native American, 2 Asians and 65 women. They were almost all in the lower paying jobs, and 90% of these had been hired since 1969 when the company's discriminatory policies began to get wide publicity. No woman was hired at Coors until 1972. Coors was cited for discrimination in hiring by the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, but these charges were eventually dropped as Coors began to make some changes in its policy.

When the Brewery Workers went out on strike in April of this year, Coors informed the strikers that they had lost their jobs. In a panic, 400 of the 1000 strikers returned to work. The company, operating with an expired union/company contract, then hired 400 "scab" workers and told them they were "permanent."

The brewery is now in full operation, seriously weakening the position of the striking union. The union is nearly broke while Coors, now producing the fourth most popular beer in America, has millions to fight the union in the courts. This litigation could take months (even years) and allow the company any policies that it wishes in regard to employee hiring or employee relations.

* * *

While walking with the strikers at the company entrance, I met a woman with four children who had to put her home up for sale. I talked with a man who lost both his hands in an industrial accident but is determined not to go back until the matter is settled and the company is forced to negotiate fairly. They are an amazingly courageous group.

The National Labor Relations Board held hearings here in July charging that Coors had not negotiated in good

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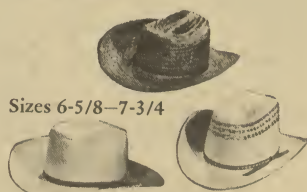
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faith and that it has unfair labor practices. Coors denies the charges, of course, and it may be a long time before the case is resolved.

The Coors strikers and the brewery union officials are well aware of the boycott of Coors beer in the Bay Area by most Gay bars. They are most appreciative. They are also aware that Joe Coors and the Coors' Public Relations Department deny that Coors has supported any anti-Gay efforts. Directly, that

may be true.

The one hope that the striking workers have is that the Coors boycott is extended and that it begins to hurt the company.

Already, Coors sales had dropped from 1st to 2nd place in California, which Joe Coors says is "unexplainable." It is up to individual bar owners, managers and the beer-drinking Gay public to determine if refusing Coors is beneficial to the Gay community.

George Mendenhall

ED. NOTE: Mendenhall will continue to discuss Coors' politics and its policies in the next issue of B.A.R. This will include a conversation with Holly Coors, the wife of Joe Coors, and her relationship with a Christian group that is trying to "save" homosexuals.

Libertarian Party Backs Gays

The Libertarian Party National Convention, by a near-unanimous vote, went on record to "denounce the whipping up of anti-homosexual hysteria which is likely to lead to the infringement of the individual rights of homosexuals" by Anita Bryant and her associates and followers." The resolution, the first one introduced and the only one passed by the Convention, also stated: "We demand that homosexuals be accorded those rights, in full and immediately." It was enthusiastically voted by the Libertarians on a motion by David Bergland of California, the incoming National Chairman of the Libertarian Party.

In a show of strength by the pro-Gay forces, the resolution was seconded by Dr. Murray N. Rothbard of New York, the major theorist of the Party, as well as by Roger MacBride (VA.), Tonie Nathan (ORE.), and Dr. John Hospers (CA.). The last three, together with Mr. Bergland, make up the total of the national candidates fielded by the Libertarian Party in the 1972 and 1976 elections. The Party was formed in 1971, in Denver.

While condemning the "climate of hatred against homosexuals," "the present systematic state oppression of Gays," and attempts to ban Gay men and women from teaching in public schools, the resolution also expresses opposition to the original Dade County ordinance as a violation of "the rights of anti-Gays." This is consistent with the Party's position of opposing the imposition of cultural values by force of law, either by majorities or by minorities.

Members of Libertarians for Gay Rights were gratified by the Libertarian Party's coming to the aid of Gay people in the midst of the vendetta against them. Valerie Valrejean of Santa Monica, president of the group, stated: "This is the first and only national party, to my knowledge, which has taken cognizance of what is happening in America. The case is that there is a bunch of high-up reactionaries who are trying to scapegoat Gay people - the old, old story - as an opening wedge for their push for increased militarism and for a crackdown on civil liberties." She added: "The Libertarians recognize this, and they are the first ones to have taken to the counter-offensive, to defend what we have won."

Heat's On In L.A.

According to the ADVOCATE, visitors to Los Angeles should be on the alert for police who are presently making numerous arrests both inside and outside Hollywood Gay bars.

"The harassment," says ADVOCATE, "the worst in several years - apparently stems from the 'Clean Up Hollywood' campaign being waged by city officials. The police have dispatched their Metro squad and marked some 25 bars (9 Gay bars reported L.A.'s OUT!).

According to an ABC investigator, all the bars have had "a continuing vice problem of one type or another." All 25 are in a specific area targeted since June. Hollywood Blvd. on the north and Melrose Avenue on the south; west, La Brea Avenue; and east, Vermont Avenue.

The leather bars in particular have been singled out, and arrests are being made for drunkenness and "touching."

Libertarian Party Resolution

WHEREAS the Libertarian Party condemns the use of government power to promote racial, religious and other forms of discrimination, includ-

ing those directed against homosexuals and women, and

WHEREAS the Libertarian Party deplores the calculated incitement to hatred against homosexuals which is likely to lead to the use of government power and private violence against them, and

WHEREAS the Libertarian Party recognizes the rights of anti-Gays, as well as Gays, to pursue their own peaceful lifestyles,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Libertarian Party condemns the efforts of Ms. Anita Bryant and her associates and followers to create a climate of hatred against homosexuals, to continue the present systematic state oppression of Gays, and to extend it, for instance by banning homosexual men and women from teaching in the public schools. While we did not, and do not now, support the principle of the Dade County anti-discrimination ordinance - clearly a violation of property rights and freedom of association - we unequivocally denounce the whipping up of anti-homosexual hysteria which is likely to lead to the infringement of the individual rights of homosexuals. We demand that homosexuals be accorded those rights in full and immediately.

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
SAN FRANCISCO

GEORGE R. MOSCONE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, The issue of Human Rights is a matter of primary concern in modern society, and has become the subject of intensive controversy and debate during the past several months; and

WHEREAS, Thousands of residents of San Francisco and the Bay Area have manifested their interest in supporting the cause of Human Rights for all people, and support the aims of the "Save Our Human Rights Foundation" -- a corporation dedicated to educating the public about Human Rights issues; and

WHEREAS, The owners of Solaris, San Francisco's newest physical fitness center, in collaboration with Station K&N, have planned a unique event to raise funds for the activities of the "Save Our Human Rights Foundation;" and

WHEREAS, The subject event is "Exercise Your Human Rights," to be held at Solaris Studio, Saturday, July 30, 1977, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and all proceeds received from use of Solaris' facilities during that period will be donated to the "Save Our Human Rights Foundation;"

NOW, THEREFORE, I, George R. Moscone, Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, do hereby proclaim Saturday, July 30, 1977, as EXERCISE YOUR HUMAN RIGHTS DAY IN SAN FRANCISCO, and urge our people to patronize the "Exercise Your Human Rights" event, and give evidence of their tangible support of the goals of the "Save Our Human Rights Foundation."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City and County of San Francisco to be affixed this twenty-ninth day of July, nineteen hundred and seventy-seven.

George R. Moscone
Mayor



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If only by the nature of the acute sensibility and sensuality he has brought so abundantly to art, the homosexual should be an object of admiration, not reprobation and hatred. Without him, the arts - and humanity - would be vastly diminished.

- John Rechy, "The Sexual Outlaw"

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Milk Forum

You Drew The Conclusion

by Harvey Milk

One of the unfortunate things that I sense too often in the Gay community is the lack of understanding of the need to work closely with other minorities. All too often I hear Gay people overly concerned about "economic" alliances, about which person or group supports which taxes. I do not hear too much about "social" alliances. That would be fine if we had our freedom. But our freedom is still a long way off and forces in the nation are trying to prevent it.

I disagree with publisher David Goodstein. He claims that there will be no repression. I ask David to look at the following:

Anita Bryant: who backed her? Joe Coors: where does his money go? Andy Young: who is trying to get him out of the U.N. and what is the real reason? Willie Brown: who started the "investigation" against him? Lt. Gov. Dymally: who was behind the many "investigations" against him? The KKK: why, all of a sudden, have there been so many articles in the media? The Nazis: why, all of a sudden, are they getting so much coverage?

Why is it that any Black leader, appointed or elected, who speaks out - who is independent - becomes the subject of an "investigation"?

Some Congressmen wave the flag, pound the Bible, send the "boys" off to battle, then brush over THEIR own graft and taking of funds from Korea... but, let a Black speak out or get near a free cup of coffee and these same Congresspeople find that the sky is falling. It smacks not just of racism but part of an "agreement" not to let any minority take any significant part of the pie. The media either goes along with the plan or is part of it. For the press does not seem ready to allow Blacks and Gays to have a say - a real say - in government.

Does any Gay person think that if the Black

movement is set back that the Gay movement will move ahead? Does any Gay person think that a wave of repression similar to the 50's will not come if the reactionaries win?

We have an ex-president so on the take that it becomes sickening; he is given favorable press coverage. We have another ex-president who stole an election; he is a hero. We have the CIA, the FBI, and Congressmen all with blood and corrupt money on their hands; it is mentioned but no in-depth attack against any of these is launched. Yet, the papers blast Blacks who hold important positions.

Isn't it interesting that these same papers use the word "homosexual" every time a homosexual kills, but recently on two consecutive pages of the CHRONICLE there were five articles about heterosexual mass murders and the word "heterosexual" never appeared?

We must understand just what they really want. Do you think that these people would like to see the government run by Blacks, Asians, Latins and Gay people? THEIR government!

It is not a political party issue. It is a social issue. Any Gay person who thinks that Gay people are not on any master list had better go back and re-read the ads from Miami.

We must reach out to every group - be they political, environmentalist, labor or minorities. We must not allow the reactionary forces to continue to divide us. The recent attacks on Willie Brown and Andy Young didn't start from nowhere.

The most powerful church in this city that spoke out over and over for Gay rights is a church that is mostly Black. It is one that has started to use itself politically. The Catholic Church - which uses itself politically - is okay to the media. But a Black church that strongly fights for Gay rights is now being attacked for being political! I'm surprised that the reactionary forces took so long to attack the People's Temple.

Democracy is a strange thing. Religion is a strange thing. And both are misused in this nation. Whenever a Black or a Gay uses the democratic process or the pulpit, they come under attack by the flag-waving, Bible-pounding right wing. We had better find our "social" friends and join together before the reactionaries

turn social issues into political issues. Freedom is not a political or an "economic" issue. It is a right. And that right is under attack.

NAACP Head Sees Black-Gay Parallels

NEW YORK - The new executive director of the NAACP, appearing on CBS-TV's "Face the Nation," expressed his support for Gay rights. Benjamin Hooks, former commissioner of the F.C.C., was asked whether he thought the Gay movement was a legitimate civil rights movement.

"The Gay rights movement has some strong and striking similarities to the civil rights movement," replied Hooks.

The Hooks statement comes a month after an editorial in Boston's Black community newspaper THE BAY STATE BANNER, strongly opposed civil rights legislation to protect Gay people. The BANNER editorialized, "There is no way for society to grant this desired respectability to Gays without saying to our youth in the process that it is of no special importance whether they pursue homosexual or heterosexual relationships... While Blacks do not want to persecute Gays, we also do not want to encourage our children to become homosexuals."

"The answer is simple; Gays belong in the closet. In fact, everyone's sex life belongs in the closet... What can we expect next, a movement to procure civil rights for confessed adulterers?"

Atlanta Mayor Ducks Gays

ATLANTA - Mayor Maynard Jackson refused to issue a proclamation honoring Gay Pride Day this year. Jackson, the first black mayor of Atlanta, did proclaim Gay Pride Day in 1976; and, at the time, local newspapers were deluged with complaints from a group calling itself Citizens for a Decent Atlanta. That group financed a series of large newspaper advertisements that demanded that Jackson retract the proclamation. The mayor resisted this pressure.

This year, Jackson shifted his position to what his advisors characterized as a more "responsible" stand. The decision came just one day after Jackson announced his candidacy for a second term. Ignoring the request for the Gay Pride proclamation that Gay activists had filed with his office this year, Mayor Jackson proclaimed "Civil Liberties Week," a vague, general endorsement of every Altanta's right to constitutional protections.

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Politics & People

Yellow (Lavender?) Journalism At Its Lowest

by Wayne Friday

Many of us who know Harvey Milk were distressed over an article that appeared in last week's DATA-BOY. The Purple Princess, an anonymous gossip-monger, in a column entitled "The Lavender Connection" wrote one of the most unfair pieces of garbage I have seen laid on a Gay political leader in a long time.

"Mr. Lavender" criticized Milk for several things - one being that Milk recently commented to NEW WEST MAGAZINE that Governor Brown should speak out on the issue of Gay rights. And what, may I ask, is so bad about that? You're damned right the Governor had better speak out on our rights - and soon, too. George Moscone has spoken out for Gay rights; Senator Cranston has; the Governor of New York has; even President Carter has spoken out on the issue. For that matter, even the bigoted Senator Hayakawa has spoken out on this issue. (He spoke against us, but at least he has addressed the subject.)

When 300,000 Gays march in the streets of this city that has a population of only 700,000, I hardly think the Governor of our state can remain silent much longer. Let's face it, Jerry Brown will damn well need our votes

next year, and he had better say something - fast. The silence from the Governor's apartment is indeed deafening!

"Mr. Lavender" goes on to say that Harvey Milk prefers to take the "riot-ing, demonstrating, marching approach" to the civil rights fight. I would like to inform "Mr. Lavender" that I, too, marched every night the week following Miami when marching seemed to be what frustrated Gays in this city wanted to do - something to show our disappointment and disgust over Dade County. I remind our secret writer from the Lavender Connection that it was indeed Mr. Milk who the police department turned to on the Friday night following Election Tuesday in Miami - the night the situation got the most precarious on Castro Street when hundreds of demonstrators sat down in the middle of the street. It was Milk the police asked to go on the police car speaker and urge the people to move. It was Milk who, after telling the crowd of several thousand that although he agreed with them and felt the same frustration they felt, told them that they had no right to disrupt traffic or Muni. He asked them to cooperate. Only after Harvey promised to lead them in an orderly march the next night, with the



Harvey Milk

cooperation of the police, did the crowd clear the streets - hardly the mark of a fire-breathing rioter, I dare say. The police in the Mission precinct will gladly confirm my account.

I know who writes "The Lavender Connection," as does just about everyone else in our community. What bothers me is that he doesn't sign it. As for the inference that Harvey Milk is out to harm Save Our Human Rights - BULL! It just so happens that on June 8, the night after Miami, I was one of those asked to Guy Correy's home on Castro to start something to further human rights. From that group came the organization now known as Save Our Human Rights. We chose the name that night, formed committees, and among those there helping was Harvey Milk. I might add that "Mr. Lavender" was not there, and I am told he was doing his bit that night in the back room of sibility of writing, and

a South of Market bar. Hardly one to criticize Milk; wouldn't you agree? The original four committees formed that night were Media, Political, Finance and Education. Since that time, SOHR has decided against becoming political and, hence, dropped the Political Committee. Both Milk and myself were original members of the Political Committee, and since the committee has been dropped both Milk and myself have dropped out. It is as simple as that. Harvey Milk honestly feels that he can help human rights in other avenues and so do I. There is no attempt, and no desire - and there never has been - for Milk to harm the efforts of SOHR. "Mr. Lavender" says that he is turning his support for Supervisor to Rick Stokes. That's his privilege. It is not my intent to criticize Mr. Stokes; I have never met the man. I am convinced, too, that neither Stokes nor any of his campaign aides had anything to do with the garbage that appears in "Mr. Lavender's" column. No candidate could think that, having a writer, who refuses to identify himself, attack an opponent could help his own campaign.

When Harvey Milk decided to run for public office, he understood that he is "fair game" for criticism - all public people are. I am sure Milk can defend himself against any legitimate criticism. What does galls the hell out of me is that some cowardly person can attack, and possibly harm the career of, someone like Milk, who, whether you agree with him or not, has dedicated the last ten years and the rest of his life to furthering human rights - Gay or otherwise.

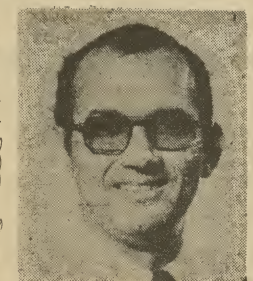
I have written a column for some time; during that time I have criticized many politicians - and I praised some as well. I have had the Mayor's office call when they thought I had been unfair. I have had the Sheriff drop a note to thank me for a compliment; I have had political aides call me at home - at all hours - to that "Mr. Lavender" was not there, and I am told this is all part of the game, part of the responsibility of writing, and

part of what you take when you sign your name to what you write. Every politician expects criticism; that, too, is part of the game. What I do resent is having some chicken-shit writer without the guts to sign his name tear down and publicly attempt to ruin the career of any politician. I don't approve of it; I think it is yellow journalism at its lowest, and I will defend the victim of this kind of cheap shot - be it Harvey Milk, Rick Stokes, or anyone else.

POLITICS & POKER...

Willie Brown goes to mainland China next month; he is chairman of the National Conference of State Legislators ... popular G.O.P. Congressman Pete McCloskey, who talked of retiring recently, now being urged to run for the U.S. Senate seat next year - meanwhile, Jane Fonda told me recently she would be "looking me up" if husband Tom Hayden decides to take on Senator Cranston next time around ... the Minutemen Democratic Club holds a brunch for all Gay candidates for city office this Saturday at Jackson's on Powell St. (11 AM) ... San Mateo County now planning to choose Supervisors by District ... Ken Maddy, liberal Fresno Assemblyman, has already raised half a million dollars toward his planned race for Governor ... GOP leader Dwight Tripp III to run for Supe in District 3 ... new S.F. Archbishop John Raphael Quinn's statement on homosexuality: "The Church teaches that homosexuality is an aberration and hence should not be encouraged. As Archbishop of San Francisco, I will make no formal statements approving of homosexuality, no matter what other religious leaders do."

"Trash Bag" Indictment



Patrick Kearney of Redondo Beach has been indicted for three murders by a Riverside County Grand Jury. Kearney's long-time companion David Hill was released July 14 with no charges brought against him.

Arrest warrants and newspaper accounts had tied both men to as many as 40 murders in Southern California. The victims were stuffed in plastic garbage bags and dumped along highways.

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S.O.H.R. News

Save Our Human Rights Foundation (SOHR) has scheduled an informational gathering at the Gay Community Center, 330 Grove, Tuesday, August 9, at 8:00 PM. The moderator (previously reported in error by another publication) will be Doug DeYoung - past President of S.I.R. and Treasurer of M.C.C. and Operation Concern.

The agenda as announced by the SOHR Interim Board of Directors:

1. Statement of the purposes of SOHR.
2. Presentation of projects, activities and committee reports.
3. Report on recent Denver National Gay Leadership Conference.
4. Question and Answer session.

* * *

A benefit performance of Chantoozietime starring Denise Kilbourne is scheduled Sunday, August 7, at Broadway's Chi Chi Theatre. All proceeds from the door will go to SOHR. Tickets (at \$5.00) are available at the box office or by calling SOHR at 621-0536.

SWEDISH GAYS

JOIN BOYCOTT

Editor:

RFSL-Stockholm (Swedish Federation for Sexual Equality) is initiating a boycott of imported orange juice from Florida throughout the Kingdom of Sweden. This action is in support of our Gay sisters and brothers in the United States and their struggle for human rights and the disapproval of the inhumane scare tactics used by anti-Gay groups, such as Anita Bryant's "Save Our Children, Inc." The boycott, involving all of Sweden's Gay organizations, is helping to serve as a means of raising the consciousness of both our Gay and straight communities in our fight for Gay rights in Sweden. We want the entire world to know of the universal struggle for Gay rights and that human rights ARE absolute.

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Behind the Headlines

Gay Catholics and Dave Kopay's Story

by George Mendenhall

"Both my parents were reared as strict, unquestioning Roman Catholics. They were brought up in a rigid society that offered them no real choices... With no form of birth control, they had four children they could not afford to keep in the manner expected of them in the church community..."

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consider it before marriage. I never heard them use the word 'heterosexual', much less 'homosexual'.

"One Saturday I had to confess to a priest that I had touched myself 'in an impure way.' The priest was very temperamental and shouted at me through the little window, 'How dare you so totally abuse the laws of the Church!'"

"My own break with the church coincided with my later awareness of my natural preference for sex with other men. The Church's stand on homosexuality was unequivocal - and was restated in January 1976 by Pope Paul VI. The Church couldn't accept me in my natural state, so I could no longer accept the Church."

This revelation by former professional football player Dave Kopay may seem trite in that the experience has been the same for many thousands of Gay Catholics. It is exciting, however, that the book "The Dave Kopay Story" has been a best-seller because many priests and the public may become more aware of what happens when Gay Catholics see no alternative but to withdraw from the Church.

This columnist is convinced that many Gay people who have suffered through the Kopay agony do not feel comfortable in limbo. There is evidently a way for these people to stay within the Catholic Church and still retain good feelings about their homosexuality. Unfortunately, Dave Kopay did not have a Dignity organization to turn to in his period of confusion and suffering.

Dignity groups are now across the country. The Bay Area chapters have a variety of functions including pot-luck dinners, "rap" sessions, home masses, and an excellent monthly bulletin, "Bridges." They are having a retreat on November 4-6, an international convention in September (in Chicago), plus local summer picnics. Dignity has Sunday mass each week at St. Peter's Church, 24th & Alabama, San Francisco, at 3 PM. The Sunday mass is followed by a social with either a speaker or a pot-luck dinner. Dignity can be reached in San Francisco at 863-4940, East Bay - 865-3857, South Bay - 371-1564.

* * *

Much of the confusion today is in the belief that

the papacy in Rome will never change. It must if it is to survive. Papal decrees in regard to sexual matters are universally ignored by most Catholics and have driven hundreds of thousands out of the church. The dwindling priesthood is becoming stronger in its opposition to these papal decrees, and this will eventually move the Bishops, Archbishops - and the Pope. Meanwhile, we must endure the stupidity of the rigid, heartless treatment of Catholics who masturbate, enjoy sex outside of marriage, and who joyfully practice their homosexuality.

It must be a considerable burden for Gay Catholics to carry when we have Archbishops like Coleman Carroll in Miami. Carroll, outrageously violating the tax-exempt, non-political status of his church, had his statement in support of Anita Bryant read in every parish in Dade County just before the Miami vote was taken. Carroll told thousands of Florida Catholics, "Under this ordinance parents would be left legally defenseless to protect their children from the influence and example of the homosexual lifestyle of teachers or counselors. Such a position must, of course, be morally unacceptable not only to Catholics but to all who seriously adhere to the Judeo-Christian tradition... Vote for repeal of this most unsatisfactory ordinance. Yours in Christ."

However, we do not have to reach to Florida to find the rigid anti-homosexuality of the papacy. Archbishop John Quinn, San Francisco, recently felt compelled to issue a statement in which he said, "The Catholic Church teaches that all other forms of sexual conduct (outside of marriage) such as deliberate masturbation, sexual intercourse between unmarried persons, adultery and homosexual activity are in conflict with the plan and law of God and are, therefore, incompatible with the moral teaching of the Church." Quinn does allow that the Church should show compassion when people do such things, as they are influenced by "fear, neurosis, habit, passion, force, and impaired states of consciousness."

Increasingly, priests do not share this pontifical view of sex and are in open conflict with the Church hierarchy. A committee of the Catholic Theological Society of America recently

released a report, "Human Sexuality: New Directions in American Catholic Thought," which has deeply disturbed Quinn. The report states that no moral precept or norm is absolutely binding on all persons; that masturbation is not immature or abnormal unless it is the sole method of sexual expression when other forms of sexual expression are available; that premarital sexual activity can be morally acceptable under certain conditions; and that homosexual activity is not necessarily abnormal nor in every respect wrong.

Quinn believes that the "Human Sexuality" report "might have had greater value and a wider perspective and thus have been of more service to the Church if it had involved the collaboration of both Bishops and theologians." What he does not say is that in the hands of Bishops and house theologians the same liberal conclusion would not have been reached.

In a surprising affront to Archbishop Quinn's rooted and rigid stand against recreational sex, the local Catholic newspaper, "The Monitor," responded editorially: "Somehow, it is a simple thing for all of us to focus on another's sins and overlook our own commissions and omissions. Though most of us are sinners in an unspectacular way and are really convinced that no one has noticed, we cannot delude ourselves that there is only one sin worth condemning... Knowing the truth about ourselves, we are standing with the men in the temple precincts. Across the centuries, the words of Jesus come, 'If there is any one of you who has not sinned, let him cast the first stone.'"

Considering the guilt and pain that continues to torture young Gay Catholics, as in the Kopay revelation, it is nothing but cruel and sadistic for the Roman Catholic hierarchy to continue to reaffirm its hidebound, unjust sexual restrictions. Until this situation changes, we are pleased that Gay Catholics can find a home within Dignity.

Everyone has to choose a road, a refined or intellectual way, or a more brotherly, general way, trying to embrace the world around you, to discover the new world.

- Pablo Neruda

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Sweet Lips Sez

by Dick Walters

Congratulations to Joe Ross of Sutter's Mill for winning the title of Mr. Circus-Circus 77-78. A lot of monies were raised for Operation Concern, which is one of Tavern Guild's pet projects ... Thanks to everyone who helped and participated ... love you all - especially you, Larry Casas.

Nice to have seen Butch, owner of Keith's and other Los Angeles bars, in San Francisco for a few days ... since you have lost weight and are not drinking, you look great!

Don't forget the Investiture of the Queen Mother of ALL California, Greta Grass, on Saturday, Aug. 13, at the Sir Francis Drake ... I hope they have a throne big enough to hold you, Greta.

A "Jim Ostlund for Emperor Party" at the Kokpit on Wednesday, Aug. 10, from 4 till 8 PM ... French 75's ... Come in and meet this interesting and hunky man.

The Emperor campaign promises to be a fun, fun event this year ... are you really using the zucchini as your emblem, Bob Ross - hope so.

The auction at the New Bell of Dowager Empress Flame's (personal) things was fantastic ... especially since the proceeds went to Operation Concern ... thank you, Flame. It was nice of Darcelle and Rock of Darcelle XV's Tavern in Portland to fly down for this event ... of course they had to spend some money on Flame's artifacts ... but how come you didn't even bring toothbrushes, Darcelle?

Start working on your costumes for the Beau Arts Ball on Halloween Night ... it will be held at the Civic Auditorium ... that is right - the Civic Auditorium ... and the prizes will be OUTSTANDING, to say the least ... the theme is "Twilight of the Gods," which gives one and all a lot to work with ... right Craig Hampton, our perennial winner.

On September 18, the day after the Emperor's Ball, the Cafe Biarritz will present two performances of "The Ritz" directed by and starring Darcelle and Company ... cast of twelve ... tickets are \$3 and are limited to 100 persons per performance ... so see Fern at the Cafe Biarritz for information.

Helen (Robbie) Trent is still at the Yacht Club for Sunday Brunch.

Why is Mr. Lillian called "Boxcar Bertha Bender"?

Thank you, Mamma Bernice of Portland, for having Dick Cook of the Boot Camp bring you in on Sunday. You are looking very well, and I look for-

ward to seeing you for the Portland Coronation on October 16 ... save a barstool for me, as I MIGHT be drinking by then - I am now in my fourth week on the wagon.

Have you seen Luscious Lorelei's new light show at the N'Touch ... a fantastic feat of engineering which shouldn't be missed. Luscious always keeps on the top ... hi, Wayne Friday.

Spanish Rose is home and doing well, and we can expect to see him back in the bars drinking his bourbon and water shortly ... love you, Jimmy.

Happy Birthday to: Tom Wessman of the Cinch and Jack Antonucci on the 1st; Little Les, the 2nd; Hawaiian Danny, the 6th; Howard (Angel), the 8th; Greta Grass and Kenny Allison, the 15th; and Frank Bruch, the 16th ... on Monday, August 15, Sweet Lips will host a birthday party for BOTH Kenny Allison (NO title) and Greta Grass (Queen Mother of ALL California) from 4 till 8 PM with canapes, etc. ... how old are you now, Greta?

Belated birthday greetings to the fabulous Bob Trollope of the *P.S. ... you never looked lovelier, Robert.

Watch for the opening of "Lois' Club" with our favorite Cala on the plank ... will we ever surprise you on your opening Cala?

How strange that so many people are already campaigning for Empress XIII when there are stringent rules forbidding campaigning until one is approved and accepted by the Privy Council ... Ladies, you had better COOL IT.

Thank you, Byrl of the Cocktail Center in Honolulu and Fred, for treating my friend John so nicely on his visit to the Islands ... looking forward to all of you coming over to the mainland later this year ... hi Glen Hill.

M.C.C. News

Rev. Ronald T. Pannell, pastor of Metropolitan Community Church of New Orleans, will conduct the 1 PM services at Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco on Sunday, August 14. Rev. Pannell was on the staff of MCC San Francisco for three years prior to assuming his duties as pastor in New Orleans. MCC San Francisco is located at 23rd & Capp Streets (between Mission and South Van Ness). A pot luck dinner will follow the 1 PM service and all are invited to bring their favorite dish and join with their Christian sisters and brothers.

Women's Resolution On Gay Rights

The following nine resolutions on Gay Rights, introduced by Chairperson Del Martin, were passed by San Francisco's Commission on the Status of Women at its regular meeting June 28. Only one commissioner, Bernice Watkins, voted against the resolutions; she voted against all nine.

1. That the Commission on the Status of Women endorses the resolution passed by the California International Women's Year Conference which recommends that Anita Bryant and her Save Our Children campaign stop scapegoating Gays and address the scandal of the abuse, neglect and sexual assault of children in their own homes and the unmerciful beating of wives which often leads to murder or suicide.

2. That the Commission on the Status of Women endorses the resolution passed by the California IWY Conference that sexual or affectional preference should not be a criteria for the hiring, dismissal, or promotion of teachers. Additionally, the COSW declares its opposition to legislation introduced by Senator John Briggs to exclude Gays from the teaching profession in California. The COSW reaffirms its previous recommendations to the San Francisco Board of Education that it meet its responsibility for providing an education to young people that portrays alternative interpersonal life styles (including Gays) objectively, yet sensitively.

3. That the Commission on the Status of Women deplores the senseless death of Robert Hillsborough and calls upon the citizens of San Francisco, the schools, parents, and churches to join with the Gay community to engage in a public education program to rid our city of rampant homophobia and to redouble our efforts to eliminate sexism and racism in American Society.

4. That the Commission on the Status of Women commends Dave McElhatton and Tim Findley of the KPX television news team for the professional manner in which the news regarding the Save Our Children campaign against Gays and the subsequent murder of Robert Hillsborough were reported. Channel 5's treatment of these issues is an example of responsibility and sensitivity which we would hope other television stations might emulate.

5. That the Commission on the Status of Women endorses the resolution passed by the California IWY Conference supporting passage of laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual or affectional preference in employment, licensing, housing and education at the state and federal level in order to bring about full participation of Lesbians and Gay men in American Society - specifically, amendment of The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and The Unruh Civil Rights Act to include the phrase "sexual preference."

6. That the Commission on the Status of Women declares its opposition to legislation passed recently by the House of Representatives in Washington to exclude Gays specifically from coverage under the

Legal Services Corporation and federal housing assistance.

7. That the Commission on the Status of Women calls upon the United States Senate to revoke these amendments, to restore sanity and reason in the Congress and to

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renew the faith of the American people in the protection of the civil rights of all minorities.

8. That the Commission on the Status of Women calls upon the Regional Conference of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, being held in San Francisco this week, to convey to the Commission in Washington the above sentiments of California and San Francisco women and urges the U.S. Civil Rights Commission to take steps to insure the civil rights of Gay citizens.

9. That the Commission on the Status of Women reminds President Jimmy Carter that it is hypocritical to advocate human rights in other countries while human rights are being revoked or denied in an atmosphere of hysteria in our own country; the Commission on the Status of Women strongly urges the President to take a lead-

ership role in speaking out against the very dangerous trend in abridging the civil rights of women and Gays - specifically, withholding of federal funds for abortions for poor women, the Equal Rights Amendment, and denying homosexuals access to the Legal Services Corporation and federal housing assistance.

All technology has the property of the Midas touch; whenever a society develops an extension of itself, all other functions of that society tend to be transmuted to accommodate that new form. Once any new technology penetrates a society, it saturates every institution of that society." Marshall McLuhan

Open Notebook

PART I - NAMING THE PROBLEM

Jack Warner

Ever since the Dade County election, the straight press has been full of explanations about what presumably happened there. There are almost as many explanations as there are writers, but it seems to me that they have one thing in common: all fail to confront the basic underlying problem. There has been a lot of talk about sin and virtue, about coming out of or going back into closets, and about whether or not Gay people have hurt their own cause - whatever that means. But all of this, I am convinced, is evasion, covering, self-justification. The real problem is never mentioned, and with good reason: straight people are unwilling to recognize and admit what the real problem is.

Gay people know what the real problem is, have always known, yet Gay people are reticent, too, when it comes time to speak the unspeakable. I noticed at the Gay Liberation Day parade the many signs that used the word "bigotry," and I think we have got into the habit of using this word without giving it any specific meaning. "Bigotry" is a vague and general term. It is emotionally forceful, but it is imprecise. It lets us express how we feel, but it doesn't define or describe the actual situation. It doesn't tell straight people that we know what the problem is, even if they don't. It doesn't, when we come right down to the final wire, communicate anything.

Surely the time has come to do some straight talking to straight people. Let us begin by naming the problem. And let us make sure that the name we give to the problem puts the blame squarely where it belongs.

For longer than anybody now living can remember, people all over the Western world have talked about something called "the problem of homosexuality." They have used this term as if such a thing really existed. They have never questioned the term, have never asked whether the assumptions it makes have any basis in fact. In the late 1950's, there even appeared a book with "The Problem of Homosexuality" as its title. Things haven't changed much: those people who agree with Anita Bryant still believe that there is such a thing as a "problem of homosexuality." Is there?

I propose that there is NO problem of homosexuality, and there never has been. The whole notion of a homosexual problem is merely a disguise for the

real problem, which is ANTIhomosexuality.

For years - for centuries - church officials and lawmakers and doctors and psychiatrists have tried to make us think that WE have a problem. The problem, I insist, is not ours, but theirs. The only problem regarding homosexuality that has ever existed is a problem of opposition to it. Homosexuality is a problem only to those people who cannot accept it as a fact of life.

Let us call the problem by its right name, then, and let us put the stigma exactly where it belongs. We must ask WHY some people are opposed to homosexuality. We must try to define their problem for them because they obviously are not going to do it for themselves. We are the ones who must be concerned about whether this problem is named and defined because we are the ones who are made to suffer because of it.

Antihomosexuality is a complex and subtle thing. Most straight people don't know what it is because they have always taken it for granted, have always assumed that it is an essential ingredient of a proper view of life. They do not question it. Straight people may tell you that they are not concerned with homosexuality because it doesn't in any way affect them. They may tell you that they don't even think about homosexuality. They are lying. All people think about homosexuality, and all people have some attitude toward it. That attitude, conditioned by the society in which we live, is inevitably antihomosexual. We might even say that, so far as the structure of our society is concerned, heterosexuality is, by definition, antihomosexual. The society is set up in such a way that a person who professes to be exclusively heterosexual cannot avoid being antihomosexual.

This is the real "problem of homosexuality" in our society. This is the problem we must confront. How do we know? The evidence is all around us: in the results of the Dade County election, in every news item or article that appears in the straight press, in television programs, in movies, in plays, in books, in advertising, in church rituals - in short, in every aspect of our society where human values are evident.

The name of the problem is ANTIhomosexuality. And the problem must be identified and

defined NOW so that the deprivation of rights, the persecutions, the assaults, and the murders do not continue.

Letters

Dear Mr. Ross:

We, the members of Save Our Human Rights Foundation, wish to thank you for donating your time and efforts in our behalf during the benefit at The City on July 11, 1977.

It will be through your support, and the support of others who are concerned with human rights, that the Foundation will be able to carry on its work of helping safeguard the human rights of all individuals in our society.

Your contribution to this cause is greatly appreciated by all of the staff and membership of this organization.

Very sincerely,

Nancy Roth
President (Interim)

Sirs:

Just a word to let you know how much I appreciate your political editors column.

For those of us trying to become more politically oriented, it's nice to have a column to read that lays it on the line, in plain English, without beating around a bush.

For learners, such as myself, in the political field, I thank Wayne Friday for his column and the B.A.R. for constantly improving.

Sincerely,

Randy Johnson

Letter From Mayor Moscone

Dear Mr. Ross:

I wanted to thank you for the strong editorial position which B.A.R. has taken against Propositions A and B on the August 2 special election ballot.

I am convinced that the more we speak to the people of our City about these propositions, the more they will be inclined to turn out in record numbers and defeat both measures on August 2. B.A.R.'s editorial was a strong, honest statement on the issues facing not only the Gay community, but all of San Francisco in this special election.

Again, Mr. Ross, I appreciate your strong support for our efforts. Your forthright stand will surely contribute to our victory at the polls next week.

Sincerely,

George R. Moscone
Mayor

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SOUTH-BAY CHRONICLE

SUPPLEMENT OF THE BAY AREA REPORTER

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GENE EARL

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Community Profiles

Active Agenda By San Jose N.O.W.

by John Joseph

The San Jose Chapter of the National Organization For Women, established in March 1972, with over 100 members, is directed by Alice Desgrey, Pres.; Susanne Hicks, V.P.; Claudette Begin, Sec.; Sonya Wyrick, Treas.; Jana Cunningham, P.R. Director; and Karen Kimball, San Jose Rep. of the State N.O.W.

Ms. Desgray has been organizing women consciousness and assertiveness training and a speakers bureau for the past three years. When asked her goals, she replied, "Through education and legislation we want to promote equal opportunity, equal responsibility, and equal benefits for women in the legal, political, social, economical, and sexual areas."

Evaluating the progress of N.O.W. in the South Bay, Ms. Desgrey said, "The general concerned public is much too relaxed on realizing the core principles involved in political issues, especially those definitely supported by N.O.W."

Jana Cunningham added, "The National, State, and Local purpose of the National Organization For Women is to bring women into the mainstream of society with all the rights and responsibilities within that commitment."

N.O.W. focuses on several issues, or as Ms. Cunningham says "become targets of concern" with the triple emphasis of national, state and local support.

One major issue, the Equal Rights Amendment, was given this triple support with a planned Houston Convention to gather delegates from the 50 states and three territories, a recently held state conference at the University of Southern California, and a San Jose E.R.A. Walk-A-Thon on August 27.

By majority vote at its July 18 meeting, the S.J. Coalition for Human Rights endorsed the Walk-A-Thon and urged Gay participation. More information about the walk and pledges is available by phoning 249-5NOW or 266-0003.

Because N.O.W. needs only three more states to secure the national ratification of the E.R.A., a national Strike Force has been established. The proceeds from the San Jose E.R.A. Walk-A-Thon will go to the Strike Force in those states still to vote on the E.R.A.

The San Jose and Sunnyvale N.O.W. will co-sponsor an information booth at the Santa Clara County Fair, August 11-21. Brochures and information about the S.C. Valley Coalition for Human Rights will be available at the N.O.W. booth. The booth, named "The Freedom of Choice and the E.R.A. Coalition Booth," will be situated at the Outdoor Plaza. This year's motto is: THE RIGHT TO LIFE MEANS MORE THAN EXISTENCE.

* * *

August 26, 1977, is the 57th anniversary of Women's Right to Vote. The celebration of women's suffrage by N.O.W. has become an annual event since 1970. This year, San Jose N.O.W. will co-sponsor the celebration with a Women's Rights Rally on Saturday,

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Aug. 27, at St. James Park.

The Rally is also sponsored by the Freedom of Choice Coalition, W.O.M.A. (Women's Alliance), the Santa Clara Valley Coalition for Human Rights, the San

Jose State University Women's Center, the Mid-Peninsula Women's Coalition, the Lesbian-Feminist Alliance and the Socialist Worker's Party.

Several South Bay speakers will address four issues: ratification of E.R.A., the Supreme

Court's decision on abortion funding, forced sterilization, and Gay rights.

Claudette Begin, organizer of the Women's Rights Rally summarized the main issues:

"N.O.W. wants the constitutional amendment which would prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex. The E.R.A. would pave the basic legal structure for equality towards women.

"We don't agree with the Supreme Court decision about abortion. We see the decision as a trend towards making an abortion a matter of choice to only those who can pay. Hence, those persons who rely upon governmental financial assistance are deprived by their limited funds to have the right to make a choice.

"N.O.W. believes that it's a woman's right to make the pro or con decision for abortion within the context of her own life situation, rather than to be limited or deprived of the choice by a legal generalization of bureaucratic opinion.

"We also don't believe a woman should be forced to undergo sterilization without her full consent. Too often women have been pressured to undergo sterilization under false information or drugs.

"And on the issue of Gay human rights, N.O.W. emphatically opposed current and newly introduced laws which would

deprive citizens of their human rights to work, to a home, and to social affiliation. A person's sexual orientation should remain a personal concern and decision, rather than a governmental dictum."

For more information about San Jose N.O.W., contact Lynette Fazio, Membership Coordinator, at 249-5NOW.

coffeehouse highlights local talent and Bay Area women musicians and is becoming more popular every day.

"We wanted to be in business together, and since I was working for the restaurant part-time and Wendy, a singer with many contacts in the music community, we felt that a coffeehouse would be great," says Carolyn.

Wendy explained that she feels that the coffeehouse offers women what they want: good food and entertainment, as well as the relaxed atmosphere most women look for. "We didn't want women coming in just because it was a business run by women; we wanted to compete with the other restaurants by offering them something," Carolyn added.

Both Carolyn and Wendy would like to buy a piece of land for their own gardening. "We are very interested in hydroponics," Wendy says. "We know that there is a future in that type of growing and we want to become involved in it."

Lifestyles

WENDY ROBINSON &
CAROLYN WOODWARD

Their business card reads: "Custom Vegetable Gardens, Rototilling, and General Gardening, but that just scratches the surface of what Wendy Robinson and Carolyn Woodward do in San Jose.

Carolyn began gardening, landscaping and tilling several years ago as a sideline. A successful mechanical draftsman, she was soon able to quit her job and, with partner Wendy, start a full-time business. The two women



Entrepreneurs Wendy and Carolyn relax at home.

had a rototiller, an old truck, a couple of used artist and draftsman, lawn mowers, and a few hand tools. It wasn't much, but it was enough to begin what has become an ever-expanding business.

From Carolyn's designs, the two women do landscaping, maintaining many of the peninsula's most beautiful yards. They credit a local gardener and nurseryman. "If it weren't for Frank, we wouldn't be doing so well," Carolyn said. "The planting of a large yard with many large trees and plants was the most difficult job. We worked in the rain with fifty gallon cans, but we completed the work and that set us up for more. People saw it and they were impressed."

"We make a great team," Wendy commented. "Carolyn has the technical know-how and I am a meticulous organizer." They have not had to advertise their services for over a year. They rely mainly on word of mouth, which has been enough to keep them busy.

Wendy and Carolyn are also the operators of the "Just Women Coffeehouse" that attracts many women every Friday night. Located in the Jewel Soup Co., the

Carolyn, an excellent artist and draftsman, would like to do more designing and landscaping. "It's more creative than just the maintenance," she says. "The women plan on expanding that aspect of their business. Both are interested in solar greenhouses and alternative energy programs.

The future may hold for them a house in a country setting. "It really upsets me to see all of the trees coming down and houses being built in their place," Carolyn says. "We know that someday we will have a home in the country; we will just have to work at it," added Wendy.

Carolyn spoke about the attitudes that some people have about their business. "I get tired of hearing people say that they can't do it. I believe that anyone can do anything they want to. It is terrifying to leave a secure job to start a business of your own, but it can be done. You have to be willing to work at it."

Wendy added, "Most people do not believe in themselves. They sacrifice their dreams for responsibilities which trap them. They often think that their families can't handle the change, but I have found that that is not the case."

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There is an old saying "nothing succeeds like success," and if true, the future will be nothing but successful for Carolyn and Wendy. Both agree that each successful job completed gives them the confidence to go on to bigger and more challenging things.

These two women are workers and achievers, and their message is that any woman can, with enough work and perseverance, do whatever it is that she wants to do. They have learned most of their skills by reading books on the subject and on-the-job training. And it most certainly is paying off.

by Marilyn Fleener

Task Force Liaison Appointment

by Dylan Scott

Fred St. Claire has joined the San Jose Human Relations Committee. Among other duties, he is charged with liaison with the Gay Liaison Task Force.

St. Claire brings to the position a business background which includes experience as a Chief Executive for three firms, Executive Director of two corporations, as well as



Fred St. Claire, H.R.C. liaison

experience as an Administrator, Planner and Organizer.

Esoteric Sciences and Parapsychology have long been of interest to St. Claire, and he is well known as a lecturer in Parapsychology. For several years he has engaged in private relating (counseling) with both individuals and groups.

Mr. St. Claire's stated goal is "To insure human rights for all." He hopes to achieve this by input from the Task Force, evaluating action possibilities, relating these findings back to the Task Force, and recommending the appropriate agency to handle the situation.

Mr. St. Claire will work closely with the Santa Clara County Gay Liaison Task Force and will attend meetings of other Gay organizations to develop rapport with the community.

Chronicle Opinion Registry

by Art James

It has become apparent from recent events and discussions with elected officials that there is need to determine the general or majority opinion on issues affecting the Gay community.

There are numerous organizations within the community working to represent the Gay population of Santa Clara County with no means for polling opinion outside of their membership.

In response to this, the South Bay Chronicle staff is setting up a survey to research the attitudes of a cross section of our community.

Under the direction of John Joseph, who holds a Masters Degree in Information Management from San Jose State University, the research team will collect applications from Gays who wish to participate in the program.

The surveys will be conducted among those applicants who register, in the same manner that the Gallup and Harris Polls are conducted nationally.

The Opinion Registry will be set up to include a specific number of applicants in each of several categories to balance economic levels, religious and political affiliation

and age.

Research will be done via telephone and/or mail-out forms. The results will be published in the South Bay Chronicle and forwarded to those organizations who request detailed analysis.

Joseph is particularly interested in hearing from those who are not involved regularly with Gay organizations. It is estimated that as high as 80% of the Gay population remains non-involved with Gay groups, and it is, therefore, of added importance that this "Silent Majority" be considered by organizations representing the Gay community.

To participate in the project as a member of the Registry, call (408) 984-1599 or send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to South Bay Chronicle, P.O. Box 3122, San Jose, 95116.

Coalition Workers Needed

The Santa Clara Valley Coalition for Human Rights needs volunteers a half-hour a week to protect human rights. The half-hour will probably be used making three 10-minute phone calls or writing a short letter on behalf of Gay rights.

You will never be asked to support any issue with which you do not agree. If you can do this, or

anything else for the S.C.V.C.H.R., please volunteer.

Other ways to get involved include contribution of funds, use of car, donation of materials and/or office equipment, supportive business service, and talent of any kind to help with our various committee activities.

For more information call Paul Boneberg or Joe Reda at (408) 298-GAYS, or write to Santa Clara Valley Coalition for Human Rights, P.O. Box 2288, San Jose, CA 95109.

Humanist Counselor Institute

by Alaric Vicar

Friday, August 12, opens the Second Annual AHA Humanist Counselor Summer Institute, an opportunity to be part of a synergistic interaction among the Humanist Counselors, the most committed, dynamic people of AHA.

The focus of the institute last year was the upgrading of skills, and one thing that quickly became apparent was the wide diversity of background, approaches and interests.

For further information, contact Linda Janowitz, 738 N. 2nd St., San Jose, CA 95112.

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Editorial

GAY PRIDE '78 NOW

by Art James

Plans are underway for next year's Gay Pride observance, as we have learned some important lessons from the Gay Pride Rally held recently in San Jose.



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Christopher St. Democratic Club announced plans to request a Proclamation of Gay Pride Week from the San Jose City Council and that the petition will be re-submitted if necessary with additional signatures and support each time. The '77 proclamation request was submitted too late for Council vote.

Plans are also being made to establish a Gay Pride '78 Trust Fund to finance a parade next year. This fund will be made available to the community organizations responsible for the actual planning of the parade.

It is hoped that next year's Gay Pride observance in Santa Clara County will be a full community effort with all of the 29 organizations welcome and participating.

The Gay community of Santa Cruz provided an excellent example of real "community" spirit, and, hopefully, Santa Clara County will produce an event we can all be proud of in '78.

S.J. Gays & The "Sexual Preference" Ordinance

In a recent Gay Student Union meeting, the question was raised if there was an existing city ordinance protecting Gays from discrimination. There is such an ordinance, but it only applies to city employees, applicants for city jobs, or applicants and employees of businesses holding city contracts.

The City Council approved a policy in 1974 that includes sexual preference as an area protected from discrimination within City employment. This entitles individuals who feel that they have been discriminated in employment because of sexual preference to file a discrimination complaint with the City Affirmative Action Office. It does not, however, include sexual preference as a protected group in the City's Affirmative Action Plan.

Also be aware that the Council previously had passed an ordinance to include sexual preference in the Human Relations Commission Ordinance. The Ordinance was subsequently repealed with the abolition of the Commission. The repeal does not affect the existing policy. To wit, the policy as adopted by the City Council in 1974 reads as follows:

"It shall be the policy of the City of San Jose that persons who have a sexual preference and have been discriminated upon for this sole reason shall have

remedy in filing a grievance through the established grievance procedure. Both City employees and applicants will be covered by this policy.

"Sexual preference", as used in this context and as defined by the Human Relations Commission, shall mean the choice of human adult sexual partner preference according to gender.

"Discrimination due to sexual preference will not be permitted in employment a) as a pre-condition or condition of said employment, b) in asking on any written City form whether a person has 'homosexual tendencies', and c) will be included as a stipulation within all City contracts as are other forms of discrimination."

According to Daniel Campos, Affirmative Action Officer, "This policy is still in effect and anyone requesting information can be directed to this office."

Stanford Dance

The Gay People's Union is sponsoring a dance on Saturday, August 6, at 8:00 PM. Men and women are both invited, and there will be refreshments and good music. Small donations to cover costs would be appreciated. G.P.U. is located in the Old Firehouse on Santa Teresa St. behind Tresider Union on the Stanford campus.

Points

by Gene

SAN JOSE

The Coronation Ball held Saturday, July 30, was a smashing success in more ways than one. After the Ball the DeAnza Restaurant held a Victory Breakfast in honor of the new royalty, HOWEVER, the Breakfast was a disaster. Approximately 450 persons showed up (capacity is less than 130) and all hell broke loose. Due to insufficient staff to handle the crowd, people had trouble getting waited on and trouble finding someone to take their money after they had finished eating, so many persons left without paying.

Mike Allen, the proprietor, claims that he lost about \$500. After contacting some who were there, the general comment was that they could not get anyone to take their money. Those persons should, I believe, if they are on the up and up, pay their bill.

Billy de Frank & Associates will present a Human Rights Benefit August 13 at the Lake Merritt Hotel, Oakland. Festivities start at 7:00 PM and include a complete Prime Rib Dinner and a show with stars such as Elaine Barringer and Billy de Frank.



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The Star Wars Bike Run

Southern Scandals

Leave it to the San Franciscans M/C to remain avant garde with their Star Wars Chuckwagon Run, coming your way Labor Day weekend (Sept. 3). With two shows on the agenda, bike events, 24-hour open bar, gourmet delights, guest nite show, costume contest and Starsite (campsite) competition, this run should be well worth the \$45 fee before August 16. If your spaceship doesn't come until after that, the cost will be \$50.

Last weekend, nothing but good reports filtered out of the Barbary Coast-ers M/C bike run to Spring Gap. Rave reviews for the food, the show and the whole weekend were the topic of conversation all over the Valley of the Kings (Folsom) and again, John Blythe and the club are to be congratulated for a fun weekend.

* * *

The Community Softball League finished their season with the usual hoots and hollers; and when the dust settled, Jerry DeFord's Badlands team emerged as the champs, topping the mighty Irene who actually looked relieved at not having the burden of victory on his back. The Gays will play the Cops on Sunday, August 21, at Noon in Hayward Field, so plan on attending. A week before that, Bill Pielock and his spiffy Toad Hall team will travel to Los Angeles to tangle with the team from Rascals on August 13 at West Hollywood Park (where else?) at 10 in the morning, and that tryst should be interesting.

* * *

Circus-Circus 77 at California Hall last Sunday was below par as far as attendance, due probably to the beautiful weather; at any rate, the usual slew of games of chance, food, raffles and booze were offered and the group had a fun time. Congratulations are in order for Ms. Jackie Starr and Mr. Joe Ross who sold enough ten-cent votes to win the Ms. & Mr. Circus-Circus titles. The candidates raised thousands of dollars for Operation Concern, and Mr. Larry Casas and Ms. June Starling are also to be congratulated for their arduous and profitable campaigns to raise funds for this worthy cause. In the raffle for the 75 T-Shirts, Nick Rossi, SF's most brilliant job counselor, won the shirts; Jay Nova won the Febe's statue (2nd prize) and Peter Ta-Ta won the 3 films from BART Studios. The final tally was not available at my deadline, but an accounting for the affair will be forthcoming. Congratulations to Empress Flame for another successful benefit. You are truly a jewel.

* * *

CONTEMPLATING CAVILS AND NAVELS . . .

Collins, Crosby & Phillips may sound like a singing group to you, but actually they are a humming printing business that just opened at 4017 24th and your printing needs are met speedily, efficiently and all while you're swooning over the three hunks who run the biz . . . While some of our Dowager Empresses can be exasperating at times with

each other, they have not resorted to fisticuffs yet such as the tea filtering up from San Diego where Ms. Bumps (as in Gladys) reports that Dowager Empress Morgana and Gang attacked Dowager Empress Nicole in a feud that has not yet been open warfare until the alleged collision - and the Dowager Emperors were nowhere in sight (smart!) . . . Mark your calendars RIGHT NOW for Sunday, Oct. 9, at California Hall

when Inter-Club Fund presents the annual Casualty Capers. Donation is only \$4 or a pint of blood, so plan to empty your wallets or your veins, whichever is the most painless.

That hunky standby, Bill (Quantas) Coates, has left the Ramrod where the lays were more than he could handle and is now slinging booze at Kimo's where the leis are gorgeous. Drop in on one of SF's hunkiest barmen . . .

Save Our Human Rights (SOHR) has set Thursday, Sept. 15, for their General Election; so if you're a member, get in there and vote for a leader of your choice . . . Tomorrow night, Delicious Dee Dee and Bill Beck, our current Cowpersons, will stage a huge benefit and raffle off tickets to Reno for two with \$50 in cash to lose at the gaming wheels. So drop in at Mark Calhoun's Starlite Room for a fun event and check



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SECTION X PULLOUT

out Ms. Avila who seems to have suffered some sort of scratching scene judging from the scars on his face ... The Tireless One, Flame XI, will christen his bike at Febe's on Sunday, August 14, so everyone come down with sparklers and find out what she names the machine.

THE GAYS OF MAGELLAN AND OTHER PORTS ...

Tuffy Adams, Superstar of the Pendulum Pirates, and the love of his life have opened the newest boutique in the Valley of the Dolls (Castro) called Duncan-Adams, Ltd., with three shops in one - the Duncan Gallery, the Dilettante and Tuffy's Sports shop. I suggest you hike right up the stairs at 597 Castro and check out a splendiferous 3-way ... All you people who think of aging should support the G40+ Club Auction & Party at the Phoenix on Monday, August 15, at

8:30 with all sorts of happenings designed to lighten your wallet and load their coffers, so get to this one as sort of an insurance policy when you reach those "silver" years ... The 6th Coronation of an Emperor will take place at the Galleria on Sept. 17, and Emperor Hector has planned a huge going-out blast. Special seating at \$20 a ticket will be provided as a benefit for Operation Concern, but the rest of you can get a ducat for a mere \$9. It is rumored that a super, super actor with unlimited talents will attend in person representing the Queen of England, so maybe you had better rush for tickets as soon as they are printed. Meanwhile, Gary MacDonald, J. C. Cunningham, Bob Ross (my publisher) and Jim Ostlund are heavy into their campaigns - so watch out for lots of fun and fund raising parties. Good luck to all the candidates.

With the Empress Coronation set for January 28, hints of candidacy keep popping up everywhere; and the high llamas of gossip indicate Tacky Ruth, Char Morrow, Victoria, T. Tessie and someone named Royal are planning to throw their bonnets into the proverbial race for the 13th crown, but I said it, THEY didn't, in case anyone from the Privy Council is reading this ... Wayne Friday is mad at me, but Harvey Milk isn't, so what's all the fuss? ... Hi, Mavis, you sure are nice to people from out of town, out of state, out of the country and out of sorts and especially to that spunky Bernard Jay from London who absolutely adores you as do a lot of other people around the world. You'll always be a winner in my book and everyone else's ... You can now believe the rumors that the Bolt and the Round Up have been sold because they have, and it looks like the race in the Valley of the Kings (Folsom) is on to woo the bikers, since the Bolt is reputed to be purchased by members of the Constantines M/C ... Meanwhile over in the Valley of the Queens (Polk), Kimo's hosted a 5-day marathon of a grand opening and a lot of lei's were around for those into lei-ing as well as food, prizes and puu-puu's which I learned are Hawaiian hors d'vaires - and all this time I thought they were potato puffs ... Don't forget Emperor Hector's 2nd Galleria Disco is on Saturday, Aug. 13. If you'll talk to anyone who went to the first one, it was a huge success with many hunky fancy dancers to play around with ... The Castro Street Fair scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 14, plans to be Gayer than ever ... The Coral Sands Motel in Hollywood promising San Franciscans "The Best in Gay Hospitality." Remodeling, new management, new staff - with package weekend prices that are most attractive.

Wind it up. Have a ball. Drop in on Spike (as in Heels), the hamburger queen at the Grubstake and say hello to Bobbie, Robbie, David, Curt, Joe and Marge, of course. Steve's got a great crew there. See you all around the campus and support all the fund-raisers for SOHR and Operation Concern.

Love you all,

MISTER MARCUS

P.S. Is there any truth to the rumor that Pearl Heart, the boffo super singing star, has filed for Supervisor in the 5th District? Has anyone checked with City Hall? Does anyone know what motivated this move? Let ME know!

There is no insurmountable solitude. All paths lead to the same goal: to convey to others what we are.

- Pablo Neruda

Imperator et Rex

by Hector

Congratulations to the good time and were four candidates selected by the Review Board to be treated with a great deal of respect. Thank you, vie for Emperor! The San Jose ... we'll be contestants you will be back! Congratulations to seeing a lot of are (in the new monarchs of the alphabetical order) J. C. Casa de San Jose Empire - Cunningham, Gary Emperor-Rey I Jim McDonald, Jim Ostlund and Empress Cassara and Empress Bob Ross. With a Reina X Miss Jean! May slate like that, you have quite a choice, and they all appear to be excellent healthy one.

Circus-Circus was astoundingly successful again this year. Although the accounting is not yet completed, the Board of Operation Concern indicates they grossed close to \$20,000. Congratulations to everyone who attended and especially Chairman Chuck Bayles and the crew who worked endlessly.

Congratulations to our new Mr. Circus-Circus, JOE ROSS of Sutter's Mill, and to Ms. Circus-Circus, JACKIE STARR of the Starlight Room. We're looking forward to an exciting year with both of you. The four contestants raised nearly \$10,000 for Operation Concern, and we're proud of all of them, including LARRY CASAS of the *P.S. Restaurant and JUNE STARLING of the New Bell Saloon! You were all terrific!

The Circus-Circus pin project sponsored by the Gamecock Court netted over \$2,000 for Operation Concern, and I'm proud of my Court for this success! I'd now like to turn my Court's attention to GALLERIA DISCO ONE MORE TIME on Saturday, August 13. GALLERIA DISCO proved such an overwhelming success for our human rights that we are doing it again. Start spreading the word, and let's make this one even bigger!

Remember, the profits from GALLERIA DISCO are distributed equally between Save Our Human Rights and the Northern California Human Rights Advocates. I ask that you support our efforts and have a good time doing it! GALLERIA DISCO will again feature interesting and exciting events, and we have added super attractions this time. That's GALLERIA DISCO ... SATURDAY ... AUGUST 13 ... 8:00 PM!

The following day, Sunday, August 14, is the CASTRO STREET FAIR. You all remember what a bizarre event this is and what a great time we have each year, so keep it in mind.

We attended the San Jose Coronation Ball last weekend, and I'd like everyone to know that San Jose seems to be getting it together and came off with a beautiful Coronation Ball. We had a very

We have been progressing on plans for our Emperor Coronation Ball on September 17, and you'll find that this is one Coronation Ball you'll really enjoy! We will, of course, have the usual pageantry which always adds to the occasion, but we are allowing only three minutes for each Court introduction, and we hope to have a lot of time for Disco Dancing. We also have a special show lined up featuring DAVID KELSEY on the organ and the Always-Fabulous MICHELLE! Tickets will be on sale later this month at the Record House in its new Geary Street location. Dick Bumpus or Roxie Hart, if you prefer) will exclusively handle Coronation Ball ticket sales this year.

The Ball Program is about to go to press, but we still have some advertising space available. The program, laid out by Ron Ross, is going to be beautiful, and I encourage your support of our classic Coronation Ball Program. If you haven't yet been contacted for your ad, please call me at home (626-9081) or call Mark Calhoun at the Starlight Room (phone VODKA-33). Our deadline is just around the corner though and we'll only be taking ads for a short time, so act quickly!

Our Coronation Ball will be the first one held as a benefit. One dollar from each door ticket sold will be donated to the PEOPLES FUND; 10% of the hotel rents from out-of-town visitors will be turned over to the PRIDE FOUNDATION by the RICHELIEU HOTEL on Van Ness; and we have four sections of "charity seating" from which all proceeds will go to OPERATION CONCERN. I'm hoping that this will begin a trend up and down the Coast. Remember ... charity begins with us, and we must always seek new means of bringing in money to take care of OUR people.

Remember ... "ONE MORE TIME - GALLERIA DISCO" on August 13!!!

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News From England

The Love That Dares To Speak Its Name

As they took him from the cross
I, the centurion, took him in my arms
the tough, lean body
of a man no longer young,
beardless, breathless,
but well hung.

He was still warm.
While they prepared the tomb
I kept guard over him.
His mother and the Magdalen
had gone to fetch clean linen
to shroud his nakedness.

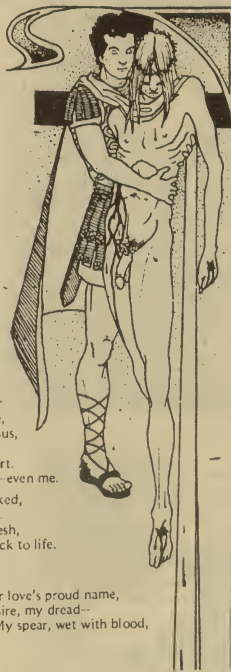
I was alone with him.
For the last time
I kissed his mouth. My tongue
found his, bitter with death.
I licked his wounds—
the blood was harsh.

For the last time
I laid my lips around the tip
of that great cock, the instrument
of our salvation, our eternal joy.
The shaft still throbbed, anointed
with death's final ejaculation.

I knew he'd had it off with other men—
with Herod's guards, with Pontius Pilate,
with John the Baptist, with Paul of Tarsus,
with foxes, Judas, a great kisser, with
the rest of the Twelve, together and apart.
He loved all men, body, soul and spirit—even me.

So now I took off my uniform, and, naked,
lay together with him in his desolation,
caressing every shadow of his cooling flesh,
hugging him and trying to warm him back to life.
Slowly the fire in his thighs went out,
while I grew hotter with unearthy love.

It was the only way I knew to speak our love's proud name,
to tell him of my long devotion, my desire, my dread—
something we had never talked about. My spear, wet with blood,
his dear, broken body all open wounds,
and in each wound—his side, his back,
his mouth—I came and came and came



As controversial poem first appeared.

Blasphemous Poet Replies

by Hal Dawson

LONDON - Mrs. Mary Whitehouse read a poem in London's GAY NEWS that moved her mightily; she instituted legal proceedings against the author of the poem, Professor James Kirkup, Editor Dennis Lemon of GAY NEWS and the publication GAY NEWS.

The trial was held at Old Bailey, and in July, 1977, all three defendants were found guilty of blasphemy. The penalty rendered by Judge Alan King-Hamilton included a nine month suspended prison sentence and a L.500 fine for Editor Lemon, a L.1000 fine for the newspaper, and trial costs.

"The offense of blasphemous libel today occurs when there has been published anything concerning God, Christ or the Christian religion in terms so scurrilous, abusive or offensive as to outrage the feelings of any member or sympathiser with the Christian religion so as to tend to lead to a breach of the peace," said Judge King-Hamilton.

This was Britain's first blasphemy case since 1921, and the guilty verdict elicited from Mrs.

Whitehouse this commentary: "It's been a great day for the country - a line has at last been drawn."

Author Kirkup was not allowed to speak at the trial, for the judge ruled that NO literary evidence or evidence of intention was admissible. The poem consists of 66 lines of free verse entitled "The Love That Dares to Speak Its Name." A Roman centurion present at Christ's crucifixion says:

As they took him from the cross
I, the centurion, took him
in my arms—
the tough, lean body
of a man no longer young.
I was alone with him.
For the last time
I kissed his mouth. My
tongue
found his, bitter with
death
I licked his wounds—the
blood was harsh.

Professor Kirkup later turned over to the LONDON OBSERVER a 1000 word statement which he prepared for use at the trial. Kirkup, 54, with an established literary reputation says: "My poem in GAY NEWS, like many of my religious poems, was an attempt to see Christ anew in terms of modern sexual liberation, terms valid for homosexuals, bisexuals and heterosexuals alike.

"I had always believed

in Him as a real human being who had once lived on this earth with lusts, failings, ecstasies and sexual equipment like the rest of us, and I was concerned to present this view with both humor and realism."

Author Kirkup has published some sixty works in the past 29 years on a wide variety of literary and religious themes. Winner of a number of literary awards, Durham University graduate, he has taught in several countries, mostly in the Far East. Currently, he is teaching at Kyoto University of Foreign Studies in Japan.

Ideally in a court of law that attempts to evaluate a poem it is pertinent to find out how the poet looks at the world of reality. Witness Professor Kirkup's learning the story of the crucifixion when he was a little boy attending the Primitive Methodist Chapel and Sunday School: "This dreadful place, like all Christian churches ever since, filled me with gloom, boredom, despondency and sheer terror.

"I heard the grisly, gory details of the crucifixion for the first time at Sunday School at the age of five. I was so overcome by revulsion and fright that I fainted with the shock of those gruesome violent images. When I heard of the fires of hell and the torments of the damned, my horror expressed itself in outbursts of uncontrollable giggles, my knees shook and I wet the floor.

I, who loathed meat and could not ever bear the

sight of a cut finger, was informed that I could be 'saved' only if I were to be washed in the blood of the lamb - which my poor dear parents considered a Sunday lunchtime luxury. I could never take part in Holy Communion, for the very thought of eating bits of Christ's dead flesh and drinking cups of blood made me sick.

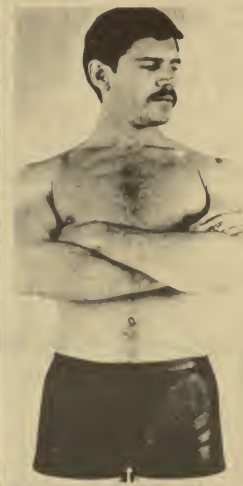
"Now I am convinced that young people with impressionable minds should never be exposed to such brutal, sadistic

and violent obscenities whether in church, in books, in the cinema or on TV. I wonder how many children were utterly disgusted by Christianity as I was through the constant repetition of these inartistic, tasteless and crude images."

Kirkup continued, "My motives were pure - on that my conscience is clear - and all I wanted was to create a work of art. Audacity, yes; blasphemy, no."

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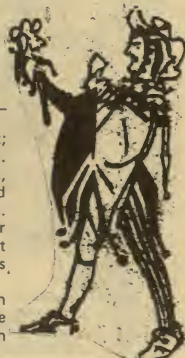
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The author concluded, "Passionate love of Christ with intense realism. The love that dares to speak its name" of my title is not specifically homosexual love, but simply and purely the passionate love of a great and exceptional individual rejected and murdered by conventional society.

"This is the kind of love the Church does not allow us to think about and which most people fail to imagine in the banal religiosity of worship."

Judge King-Hamilton concluded, "What the poem says is that Christ was not only homosexual but also promiscuous and it alleges that he indulged in every kind of homosexual activity singly and in groups."

The Appeal Court will rule on the case this autumn.

San Franciscans Muscle Their Way to Human Rights

Sheriff Richard Hongisto and Grace Slick of the Jefferson Starship were two of many well-known San Franciscans who put their bodies on the line for human rights at a fund-raiser at Solarius Physical Fitness Center on July 30.

Since Steve Kalafut and Helen Sneed, co-owners of Solarius, made the offer to donate a nickel for every exercise completed on the fitness center's "space age" equipment (maximum of 20,000 coins), the phones rang with offers to participate from such people as Fee



Steve Kalafut of Solarius exercising for Human Rights.



NICKELS FOR S.O.H.R.: Members of Bullshot Crummond, Zahn Artman of Bill Graham Productions, Fee Waybill of the Tubes, KSAN's Bonnie Simmons, Grace Slick and Chinga Chavin and Sweet Johnny Guitar from Country Porn, were among the many San Franciscans who muscled their way to human rights, July 30th at Solarius Physical Fitness Center. Solarius donated a nickel to the 'Save Our Human Rights' foundation for every pull, push or leg thrust that each person completed on the Nautilus equipment. A total of \$1,000 was raised.

Photo by Jonathan Postal



At S.O.H.R. Benefit (L to R): Helen Sneed, of Solarius, Gay Kruger of the Great American Backstage Musical, Sheriff Richard Hongisto and Grace Slick muscled their way to human rights at Solarius Physical Fitness Center.

Photo by Jonathan Postal

Waybill and Prairie of The Tubes, San Van Zandt of K101, Dennis Eroken of "BAM" Magazine, cast members of "Bullshot Crummond" and "The Great American Backstage Musical," Nancy Fleming of KGO-TV, The

Dictators, Zahn Artman of Bill Graham Productions, Howie Klein of "New Wave Magazine" and the B.A.R. staff, among others.

Proceeds from the event, co-sponsored by Solarius and KSAN radio, will fund a symposium on human rights at San Francisco State University in October. Offered through the University's Continuing Education Division under the sponsorship of "Save Our Human Rights," the symposium will also form the basis for an outreach educational program on human rights.

Throughout the day, the jazz-rock band "Heart's Island" provided music to exercise by.

"This event, where people can physically get involved and demonstrate something for what they feel, will not only produce the close interaction between concerned community members, but will signify how many of us there really are who feel a need to express ourselves on these issues," explained Kalafut.

Over \$1,000 was raised.

Canadian Party Endorses Gay Rights

CANADIAN POLL: 52% FAVOR GAY RIGHTS

TORONTO - A recent Gallup Poll showed that the majority of Canadian citizens questioned believe that homosexuals should be protected under the proposed Canadian Human Rights Act. 52% agreed that Gay men and Lesbians should be protected from discrimination in employment and should have access to public services.

Considerably more of those under 30 years of age felt that Gays should be protected under the Act (61%) than did those over 50 years of age (44%).

More women (56%) than men (48%) believed the proposed act should include protection of Gays from discrimination. Opposition to the idea was slightly higher among men (32%) than women (28%).

The question asked of 1,056 adults throughout Canada was: "In the proposed Canadian Human Rights Act, there has been no provision made for protection of homosexuals from discrimination in employment and in access to public services. In your opinion, should such a provision be included or not?"

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PART II - SEX AND THE CLASSROOM

by Paul-Francis Hartmann

Sexuality is as natural to the classroom as show and tell, the daily quiz or the weekly book report. Explicit sex acts in the classroom are as rare as murder in the classroom.

Sexuality is as potent a classroom force as love, hate, anger, disappointment. It exists between student and teacher as does a bad report card or four gold stars. It's there, and neither crucifix on the wall nor American flags in the corner nor remedial reading will ever make it go away!

All parents know their offspring are sexually curious - in one way or another at one time or another. Sexuality doesn't arrive full blown in the seventh month of the twelfth year. Unfortunately "puppy love" is a spayed word.

Every boy has a penis that rises and falls and every Shirley Temple a vagina and breasts that grow. And spoken or not, the sexual urge develops inexorably and directs part of our thinking and operation. The child, the adolescent, the college coed do not drop their sexual whirrings and stirrings at the schoolhouse door. For the teacher is oftentimes the very object, the focus of the attraction or repulsion at that time and place.

The younger and more attractive the teacher, the hotter the contest. A former Miss America in the third grade is not totally lost on the Cub Scouts. A Fonzie in the fourth form is not missed by the Brownies. And there are some on whom it is lost entirely - and at times the teacher thanks the heavens for such small favors. And while we're about it, Fonzie "attributes" are not missed by the fifth grade boys.

* * *

I recall an incident in my first sixth grade class ... I was 24, teaching in a comfortable New York suburb.

Nancy was without a doubt the prettiest girl in the class. She had piles of blond curls, long eyelashes, and came to school always dressed up - ribbons and bows. Nancy was accustomed to being the teacher's pet: dependable, sweet, obliging, bright, cheerful ... One spring morning while doing arithmetic, Nancy raised her hand and I went down the side of the room to her desk on the aisle. I sat on the radiator and bent over her workbook engrossed in the intricacies of long division.

Suddenly Nancy reached out and ran her fingers deeply through my hair, saying, "Gee, I wish my daddy had curls like yours

- they're so nice. ..." I jumped as if the radiator had seared me with a jet of steam. "Thank you, Nancy," I sputtered, "the answer is seventy-four point six," and retreated to the safety of my desk (the reason, I've since concluded, teachers' desks were so large and intimidating).

Does one "explain" to Nancy at 11½ the "meaning" of her behavior? Does one send home a note, "Your daughter is getting too familiar with her teacher." Does one punish her - keep her after school? (Perhaps the least wise response.) Many would say, "But it was only an innocent gesture." Which it was. But there is another text in which it was not. In the long and short of life I've never forgotten it, and I sometimes wonder if Nancy ever recalls the morning she walked her hands through her young teacher's hair ... In all due respect to the tale: I met Nancy's father at a subsequent PTA night, and he was as bald as an ostrich egg ... but with that same winning smile.

From the sticky-handed kindergartener who attaches himself to teacher's fingers as if they were a cow's udder to the ninth grade pom-pom girl who insists on sitting on teacher's lap, to the seventh grade boy who pats the teacher's rear end ... SEX - whatever its budding or flowering form - is in the air. Were I heterosexual I suppose Valerie's throwing herself into my arms would have been more "satisfying" than Danny's grabbing my fanny, but I doubt I would have dealt with either differently: I begged both their pardons and moved on. Although Valerie persisted, stating she always sat on her Daddy's lap and he was our football coach.

Paul-Francis Hartmann

to be continued. . .

NGTF News

The NGTF has examined the reasons for the defeat for human rights in Dade County and has reached the following conclusion: the majority of voters did not understand the discrimination Gay people actually experience, and did not see the issue in terms of civil rights. Rather, their votes were based on their emotional attitudes towards Lesbians and Gay men and their views on the status of homosexuality in society.

They believed that homosexuals are "sinful," "criminal," or "sick," and they did not wish to give their "approval" to homo-

sexuality as a valid alternative lifestyle for those who choose it. They believed that society has a stake in preventing and discouraging homosexuality, because they saw it as a threat to children and to the traditional structure of the family.

While NGTF continues to believe that these attitudes are not appropriate reasons to deny legal protection against discrimination in jobs, housing, and public accommodations to any group of citizens in a pluralistic society, nonetheless, these attitudes are the central issues which must be faced by the American public with reference to homosexuality.

To this end, NGTF announced immediate plans to embark on a nationwide educational project, the "We ARE Your Children" Campaign for Human Rights.

The NGTF will show the American public who Gays really are, and that they are not afraid of the truth. They will expose the immorality of using scriptural texts to justify the oppression of homosexuals, in the same way that others in the past have exposed the immorality of using such texts to justify slavery or the second-class status of women. They will present the hard evidence to prove that homosexuals as a class are no more likely to behave irresponsibly or engage in criminal behavior than any other class of citizens. They will expose the myths and falsehoods which have been used to categorize a tenth of our population as sick, for no other reason than their acknowledgment of the human capacity to love members of their own sex. That it is harmful to children to be denied the truth about Gay people, and to be taught to hate. The Task Force will demonstrate the benefits to society to be gained from broadening the concept of "family," and from a healthy diversity of sexual behavior.

WEEKS OF DIALOGUE

This month NGTF will launch a series of week-long dialogues with every major segment of the American population. With the cooperation of the nearly 1800 Gay organizations around the country, they will meet with leaders and members from churches, schools, labor unions, corporate boards, newspapers, and radio and television stations; associations of lawyers, physicians, and teachers; civic, social, women's and minority organizations - and legislators. And during the course of a single week, in cities and towns throughout this country, members of each of these groups will be given the opportunity to discuss the issues and learn about homosexuals first hand from the Lesbians and Gay men in their local communities.

In order to encourage a truly open debate on the issues, the National Gay Task Force and local Gay

organizations will solicit co-sponsorship for these "weeks of dialogue" from many national and local organizations, especially those which have already expressed their support for Gay rights and/or "sodomy law" repeal legislation.

For each of these weeks of dialogue ("Church Week," "Lawyers' Week," etc.), the National Gay Task Force, with the cooperation and assistance of national Gay religious and professional organizations and caucuses, will prepare and distribute a specific study guide designed to answer the questions most frequently asked by members of each target group.

In addition to the specific study guides, the National Gay Task Force will distribute publications designed to assist local groups in their edu-

cational and political efforts. Work has already begun on an updated version of "20 Questions About Homosexuality," a pamphlet designed to explode the most common myths about Lesbians and Gay men. A team will work on a pamphlet entitled "What You Can Do Today." And work will begin shortly on materials concerned with such topics as "How to Deal With Your Local Media," "How to Start a Gay Organization" and "How to Conduct a Gay Rights Lobbying Campaign."

Complacency and indifference about our own are among the ugliest aspects of the Gay world.

- John Rechy, "The Sexual Outlaw"

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Show Biz in Review

Stage: Shine It On

Probably no star in the business is more devoted to her friends than Liza Minnelli. Unfortunately, her devotion seems undeserved and unrewarded. With increasing despair, I watch the brilliant Miss Minnelli, one of the most electric and talented performers to grace a stage or screen in many years, grind out mediocrity and worse - repeatedly - due to her blind loyalty.

Kander and Ebb have been writing her original songs for years; she won a Tony for starring in their "Flora, The Red Menace," a perfectly dreadful show, galvanized the screen in "Cabaret" after Jill Haworth originated Sally on the stage, replaced Gwen Verdon last year in "Chicago" for them to SRO business for 5 weeks, has used their special material in her act for years and now appears in "Shine It On" at the Orpheum Theater with a show written just for her.

If she won a Tony for "Flora," she should get a Purple Heart for "Shine," Martin Scorsese, who did her in with "New York, New York," makes his legit directing debut with "Shine;" let's hope he got it out of his system and goes back to making vicious pictures about grubby little people and leaves Miss Minnelli to directors who appreciate her as a unique talent and not her mother's daughter. Halston has designed some unflattering costumes for her; Tony Walton has designed some ugly geometric patterns that laughingly are called sets for her, and George Furth, who must spend his life at one eternal cocktail party filled with brittle, neurotic mongoloids, has written a cliché-ridden soap opera for her. With Liza Minnelli's friends, she doesn't need enemies.

But her most loyal friend is her public, and she gives back to them unstintingly for their devotion. For two hours and fifteen minutes, she sings, dances, and acts up a storm without ever leaving the stage - giving over and above the call of any performer's duty. Liza plays a movie star making her Vegas club debut and we get glimpses

of the guilt-ridden road to the top as she shoves her way to film stardom, marries a man she doesn't love, has an affair with a rock promoter, loses her money, husband, aborted child and pride and ends up at 31 making a comeback. Sound familiar? The Vegas nightclub act is mercifully the bulk of the overlong evening, and it's a dandy. Kander and Ebb have written some fine material for her with such songs as "Arthur in the Afternoon," "The Prin-



Liza Minnelli & Roger Minami

cess" (a wonderful takeoff on Hollywood gossip), and a standout number for her seven backup dancers entitled "Little Do They Know" that relates the gypsies' lament of making the star look good. Ron Lewis has choreographed several dazzling routines, particularly his pole dance (first seen in "Bare Touch of Vegas") to "Good Thing Going." And then there are the four boys and three girls who comprise Liza's act: Roger Minami,

Carol Estey, Gayle Crofoot, Laurie Dawn Skinner, Albert Stephenson, Michael Leeds and Wayne Cilento. They're marvels, each and every one. So when Liza and the magnificent seven take off in song and dance, the show is exhilarating and first-rate; when the singing stops, the trouble begins.

Barry Nelson, Mark Goddard and Lorry Goldman, good actors all, play the three men in Michelle's (Liza's) life; they all deserve better.

Thanks to Ron Lewis, to her corps, and mainly to her special talent that makes her a legitimate superstar, "Shine It On" is certainly worth seeing. The Kander & Ebb score is serviceable, nothing more except in the clever patter numbers, but she makes it all seem much better than it lyrically is. If, as the show biz cliché goes, Helen Hayes could read the yellow pages, Liza Minnelli could sing them. Unfortunately, she seems to be doing just that more and more.

While I admire the good intentions of all her friends, how long must we keep waiting to see Liza Minnelli in a first-rate property worthy of her mettle?

token tribute as comment bordering on terminal on the action. What happens by the end of Act One, Albert Stephenson, Michael Leeds and Wayne Cilento. They're marvels, each and every one. So when Liza and the magnificent seven take off in song and dance, the show is exhilarating and first-rate; when the singing stops, the trouble begins.

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The local cast now playing at The Palladium, Broadway and Kearny, captures the innocence and much of the needed vitality (if at times with an overworked vengeance) but director/choreographer Edward Blair has decided that the original "Godspell" needed updating, so he has revised the script. Suddenly the cast bursts into quick choruses of "Hooray for Hollywood," "Singin' in the Rain," Toyota commercials, Anifa Bryant appears to Save the Children, Ed Sullivan introduces songs, Nixon masks appear and current Top 40 songs are given

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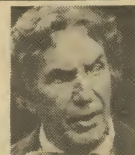
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from betraying Christ singing. "We're in the Money," Blair reverts to the original concept with an interminable final scene that drastically needs at least ten minutes taken off. You can't switch concepts in mid-act. You can't add steadily with extra bits until

what was a superficial modern musical of parabolics and crucial B.C. events is elongated with undue importance of heavy-handed symbolism into dramatic dissipation.

Some good songs and moments occur along the way. Add a handful of outstanding performances: Craig Bray as Jesus, Susan Dills as the trashy vamp,

Scott Oglesby, Elaine Pearson and John Gustavson. There is a first-rate rock combo under the direction of Fred Sharp, good set and lights by Pat Davis, and some inventive triangular cutouts with hands coming through. Choreography is adequate (also by Blair). The cast has been enlarged to include a supplemental

Film: The Last Remake of Beau Geste

Marty Feldman is a funny fellow, as all Mel Brooks addicts know. The idea of Feldman and Michael York portraying twin brothers is wacky to begin with, especially in a spoof of the old Beau Geste story (saving the family honor by stealing the family jewel and running off to the foreign legion to avoid capture).

and a one-legged sergeant) and ultimately you feel you've seen it all before with the Three Stooges. Michael York is dashing and admirable as ever, and there's no denying Feldman's a hilarious supporting actor, but as a writer and director as well, his comic genius is only intermittently apparent. You'll laugh, but you'll ultimately be disappointed.

Film: Smokey & The Bandit



Ann-Margaret is a lusty mother in "Beau Geste".

The new version at the Rednecks and C.B. bud-Regency II has many fun-dies will be delighted to ny moments along the hear Burt Reynolds has way, but loses momentum ground out another action halfway and fizzles out in film to satisfy his throb-a burst of cliché zaniness bing fans who demand no that strains more than it plotline but lots of action. entertains. The editing is This time around he's a just plain bad, with chop-trucker smuggling Coors py closeups and cutaways; beer across the state lines and such sturdy actors as for a bet, picking up a Peter Ustinov and James jilting bride en route and Earl Jones are embarrass- being pursued by ously hammy. The film "smokeys" (state rangers) strikes sparks early on for about 75 of the 93 minutes. It's all inoffen- lousy stepmother and sive pap, directed by Trevor Howard as the former stuntman Hal lousy-but-unable father Needham. Reynolds and (Ann-Margaret's opening Sally Fields (who is rapid-scene is a gem; her whole ly becoming one of my performance the best favorite actresses) strike thing in the film), but a good chemistry between once we hit the Foreign them. Jackie Gleason Legion, the comedy gets portrays the ranger in hot sicker and sicker (usually pursuit because Fields has deriving from a blindman jilted his moronic son with

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Craig Bray as Jesus makes a proclamation in "Godspell".

chorus of six plus 12 principals; hence the vocal quality is generally sturdy en masse if not always in solos, and the direction is fluid with snappy pacing in the first act.

The production is designed to be signed for the deaf at all performances. At one corner of the stage stands a lovely dark-haired lady (either Betsy Ford or Cheri Smith according to the program, but which one I have no idea) who signs the entire show. She is wonderful, capturing without words the true spirit of "Godspell." A grand idea, well executed, yet so overstated by the cast that the beauty of simplicity is lost; the lady is sufficient. Indeed, she is sufficient reason for attending, with the additional advantage of an enthusiastic, hard-working cast.

It's a "Godspell" like you've never seen before; that's not necessarily all to the good.

(Coincidentally, City College premiered the local first fully-staged production of "Jesus Christ Superstar," "Godspell's" big brother and a musically vastly superior show. Neatly directed by Jim Orin and Marilyn Izdebski, the academic production once again proved my old theory that often some of the most interesting theater is presented under the controlled conditions of collegiate theater. Jeff Gregory as Jesus, Sigrid Wurschmidt as Mary "I Don't Know How to Love Him" Magdalene, and Glenn L. Robertson as Pontius Pilate elevated the production above the adequate to score triumphs in key roles. An ambitious undertaking and worthy of note. Also, a good rock quartette, augmented by a brass section that sounded like a course in remedial tooting.)

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one of the grossest displays of broad caricature ever put on the screen. Jerry Reed is lowkey charming as Reynolds' cohort in crime, so if you enjoy hearing such deathless dialogue as "That's a 10-4, C.B. buddy!" and watching an endless barrage of police cars crash into each other, then rush right out to the Empire, St. Francis or Serramonte Drive-In. That's a 10-4.

"Literacy propelled man from the tribe, gave him an eye for an ear and replaced his integral in-depth communal interplay with visual linear values and fragmented consciousness." Marshall McLuhan

Interview: Vincent Price & Coral Browne

I can think of no better way to start out any day than having lunch with Vincent Price and his actress wife, Coral Browne. Two erudite, charming people with an equally wicked sense of humor, they possess that vanishing quality known as aplomb. Contrary to belief, neither is English; Price is from Missouri, Mrs. Price from Australia. They both just happened to live in England a long time. And now they're in San Francisco while Price portrays Oscar Wilde at the Marines Memorial Theater in "Diversions & Delights."

Says Mr. Price - "When John Gay sent the play to me, I thought it was the first literate work I'd read in ages. And it's such fun being a company of one. It's about the dignity of the individual; because of Anita Bryant, it couldn't be more pertinent. And I think Mr. Wilde will certainly outlast Miss Bryant. Wilde came to the conclusion that his whole fame was being a good dinner guest. The whole thing with the Marquess of Queensbury was totally unnecessary. It was like he had a death wish... Wilde defines morality as the attitude we adopt toward the people we dislike."



Coral Browne & Vincent Price—love the second time around.
Photo by William Ganslen

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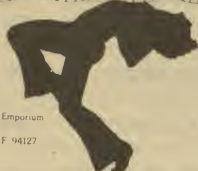
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Vincent Price is one of a handful of actors whose career has steadily spanned several decades; he reflects upon the career of actor Price over the years - "I made my professional debut in 1935, '36, '37 and '38. It was a very long run... in 'Victoria Regina.' Early in my career I did a play with Sally Rand. I played Jesus Christ and one night a drunk kept yelling 'Take it off!'... Then I was with the Mercury Theatre with Orson Welles... More and more, I find I'm a romantic because I think the business today is about as unromantic as it can be. The minute Brando and Dean came to Hollywood, all the stage actors who were trained to speak English went! There isn't any glamor in Hollywood any more. The secret of the arts in America is one word - survival."

Of his early work, "Dragonwyck" and "Laura" remain his favorites; then came the Dr. Phibes films and "Theatre of Blood," his horror favorites. Unlike Christopher Lee, Price does not flinch from his horror film image - "I don't put them down. It would be like John Wayne putting down westerns. And they've certainly helped me as far as demand is concerned. The villain is much more interesting to play than the hero. And I had the art collector's image, which didn't hurt. I've always kidded my image; I'm strictly a pussycat... They wanted me to do a musical called 'Dear Dracula'. When it comes to musicals, I'm not very bright. I have a pair of shoes marked R and L."

And then there is the other side of Vincent Price; the reknowned art collector, chef, lecturer and author - "On the Carson show, they get me to do the gags no one else will do. They got me to cook a fish in a dishwasher, full cycle. And do you know, it worked. It was delicious. Johnny is quite capable of spitting it right in my face and he ate the whole fish... I used to lecture in 60 cities in 65 days. I still do 30 in 32. When David Niven was about on a tour to publicize his book, he called me and said 'I hear you're the oldest living lecturer.' I said, 'Yes, since Eleanor Roosevelt died.' David asked if he should bring someone along with him to tour. I said, 'Who do you like well enough to spend 40 nights in a Holiday Inn with?' He said, 'No one!' Then he said, 'Do they scream and tear your clothes off?' I told him, 'Only if you're very lucky.'"

* * * * *

Four years ago Price met someone he could spend 40 nights at a Holiday Inn with, actress Coral Browne, the screen's Vera Charles in "Auntie Mame," "Killing of Sister George" and the crippled gossip columnist of "Legend of Lylah Clare" ("that was certainly before its time, wasn't it?"). They met while filming "Theatre of Blood," in which Price murdered Browne as a mad actor wreaking revenge upon the critics who'd panned him. They both recall the first meeting vividly.

Vincent Price - "Diana Rigg told me we must all take down everything she says because she's so brilliant, I made the mistake of telling her this, and she didn't say a word for three days. I thought, 'This is a dull broad!' until she opened her mouth."

One More Time!



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Coral Browne - "Well, can you imagine someone telling you to talk and be brilliant. I was afraid to say a word! ... I remember he electrocuted me on my birthday."

Price - "That was the scene where I killed her. I said to Diana Rigg, 'I understand it's Miss Browne's birthday. What could I get her?' And Diana said, 'Well, I know what she wants. You!'"

A second marriage for both, when both are comfortably ensconced in their middle years, Coral Browne smiles wryly and with devastating droll says, "We've been married three years. I'll never make the golden. I get wood and paper. I wonder what rotten things are coming up next? Between us, we've had every experience in the world. Here, look at this. (She takes off her engagement ring and hands it to me.) It's the smallest diamond in the world." The ring actually is quite delicate with two tiny diamonds set in it; they both laugh and Price informs her, "I don't want you to get secure."

Coral Browne's face is a dream for any woman much younger than she. With clear, smooth skin and wrinkle-free, I inquire as to her secret. "None. I was 418 pounds of condemned veal when I was young. But I've always looked chic all my life. I think more marriages have come to ruin by ladies working on their faces. I think the whole of a woman's character shows under her eyes. I find the beauty thing an awful bore. Now massage, that's different. I have a man who comes every day and beats me to death (Price - "If I did that, you'd divorce me.") I don't cook. I'm sort of Vincent's sounding board because he's never sure of himself. Vincent really loves to cook. To him, it's great relaxation. To me, it's quite the opposite. Disgusting, filthy beast. I go on a different diet every week. Of course, when you work the Mark Taper Forum (in L.A. where she appeared last season) you have to diet. They pay you so little.

"I spend a lot of my time out of work deliberately because I don't want to do anything unless driven by admiration. I don't do tripe. I've been lucky because when I do work they've been successful and have long runs. Film has never worked out well. I never photographed well. My interests have always been varied. I went into the theater as a designer. I fell into acting. I never intended to become an actress."

But become an actress she did at 16 in Australia, even played "Hedda Gabler" at 18, and

then her acting teacher advised her parents to send her on to England because there was nothing left for him to teach her. For her 21st birthday, Coral Browne arrived in London. "I got a job 3 days after arrival as understudy; the actress fell ill opening night, I went on the second night and got all the press. But then I had to establish myself properly. Then it gradually happened. The war came and I read plays professionally. I advised them to do 'The Man Who Came to Dinner' with Bob Morley and I played Maggie. They wanted a tax loss and they made a lot of money with 'Dinner' so they did 'Arsenic and Old Lace' which made even more. Eventually, Guthrie invited me to the Old Vic with no training in the classics. He said, 'You've paid your dues and either you can act or you can't.' No one has ever disputed Coral Browne can act, even Laurence Olivier when he feuded with her for refusing to appear in 'Coriolanus' at the Old Vic. 'Nobody's been any good in that part since Sarah Siddons!'"

Coral Browne is a lady who speaks her mind; she has a dry wit that reduces me to a howling banshee. Fortunately, I notice Vincent Price is also howling. They're a marvelous couple together - urbane, sophisticated and totally honest. While Price performs, Mrs. Price is back at the hotel watching TV and writing letters ("I'm free until 9 tonight, when I watch 'Barney Miller.'") Price tells her director Joe Hardy has mentioned giving Wilde a lip; she retorts, "Well, that will bugger up the evening!"

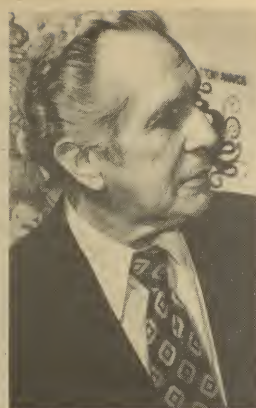
Mrs. Price loves San Francisco - "Every day I go out and buy something. The shops are so marvelous. I do hope the play is a success. I don't want to go back to California." I mention this is California. "Not to me. This is another world."

And with that, Vincent Price and Coral Browne sweep out of the St. Francis to attend an art gallery with a bit of shopping on the side. They make it as far as three steps out the front door before they are surrounded by a small cluster of fans wishing them well very politely. Price is gracious and enthusiastic; Mrs. Price is casting covetous glances at Macy's windows.

Donald McLean

Yes, narcissism as art form. And certainly bodybuilding as art form. The FORM is Gay - the pursuit of the idealized grace of the 'woman' and the idealized strength of the man.

- John Rechy, "The Sexual Outlaw"



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All Aboard For The Arizona,
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by George Heymont



The newest addition to Houston Grand Opera's roster is none other than CAROL CHANNING, the famous bass buffa who brought life to such musical heroines as Lorelei Lee, Cecelia Cisson, and Muzzie Von Hossmere. Her prodigious musical talents include accompanying herself by dancing on a xylophone while singing "Jazz Baby", and tossing rhinestone rings into the audience while warbling "Diamonds Are A Girl's Best Friend." A native San Franciscan, she returns to the stage of the Curran Theatre on January 3, 1978 as Dolly Gallagher Levi, in HGO's touring production of HELLO DOLLY.

Yes, Virginia, there's more to the Southwest than oil, cacti and millionaires. Opera has been erupting all over the painted deserts of the USA for many years, and if you are traveling to any major city in the Southwest, you can time your trip to one of the regional opera productions. You'll hear some damned good singing, too!

When I was a kid, the greatest musical contribution Texas made to my life was "The Ballad of Davy Crockett." If someone had told me that opera was a vital part of Texan life, I would have laughed him off the streets. Even in my wiser days, any mention of "The Lone Star State" evokes an image of some poor diva stranded in the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport.

But a lot of hot stuff is going on. Last year Dallas presented the American premiere of Wagner's RIENZL. The Dallas Civic Opera is also responsible for the American debuts of such artists as Joan Sutherland, Montserrat Caballe, Magda Olivero, Teresa Berganza, Gwyneth Jones and Luigi Alva. In its 20-year career, DCO has presented the American premieres of SAMSON, Monteverdi's INCORONAZIONE DI POPPEA, and Handel's ALCINA.

This year's offerings are heady appetizers. In November DCO opens its season with Verdi's RIGOLETTO, with Al-

fredo Kraus, Maddalena Bonifaccio, Ingvar Wixell and Cynthia Munzer. In addition, Marilyn Horne stars in Bellini's version of Romeo & Juliet, I CAPULETI ED I MONTECCHI. December brings some exciting casting for Mr. & Mrs. Macbeth, with Kostas Paskalas as the thrusting Thane of Cawdor and Roberta Knie as his evil wife. Ms. Knie sang some beautiful Brunehildes here last year, and maybe we can get her as Lady Macbeth in '78. Rounding out the season will be Massenet's MANON. Jeannette Pilon will sing the title role; Alfredo Kraus will be her dashing young lover, and Giorgio Tozzi will appear as the Comte Des Grieux.

The neighboring Fort Worth Opera will present four productions. MADAMA BUTTERFLY opens their season in November with Atsuko Azuma as Cio-Cio-San. The New Year starts with Mozart's MAGIC FLUTE. Ashley Putnam, a very talented young American singer will tackle the difficult role of the Queen of the Night. In March, Giorgio Tozzi brings his famous interpretation of BORIS GODUNOV to the Southwest. April fools go romping around the jail in DIE FLEDERMAUS, with Lorna Haywood as Rosalinda leading the gang. Then in early June, the Metropolitan Opera rolls into town on its annual tour.

Further to the south, San Antonio has an-

FAN TUTTE in January with Shigemi Matsumoto. The following month, Rosalind Elias brings her fiery CARMEN into town. In May, Carol Neblett and Giorgio Tozzi, come to grips in Puccini's TOSCA.

The big baby of them all is Houston Grand Opera. In an area spreading at metastatic speed, HGO has grown tremendously in only ten years, producing quite a few gems. Their touring suc-

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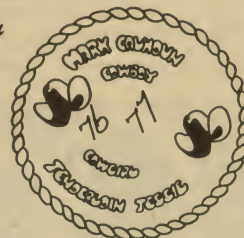
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cesses have included Scott Joplin's opera, TREE-MONISHA, Gershwin's PORGY & BESS, which recently played San Francisco, and a production of Carlisle Floyd's OF MICE AND MEN, which recently played Kennedy Center in Washington. HGO has also lent us their productions of Donizetti's THE DAUGHTER OF THE REGIMENT and Verdi's LA TRAVIATA, both traveling in the loving hands of Beverly Sills.

A look at their upcoming season shows that it ranks with the best. October 13 is opening night, starring Marilyn Horne and Luigi Alva in Rossini's TANCREDI, its first production in the United States since 1825.

November brings Strauss's ARABELLA, with Kiri Te Kanawa, Thomas Stewart, Valerie Masterson and Ashley Putnam. In January, Carol Neblett of the New York City Opera will take her first crack at AIDA with Ermanno Maura as Radames. Next on the list is FALSTAFF, with the merry Donald Gramm getting horny in the forest. In March, Beverly Sills stops in Texas with the San Diego Opera's production of THE MERRY WIDOW on her way to New York. Ms. Sills will then take the Lehár work to the New York City Opera, opening there on April 2.

Not to be left out of the running is Arizona, where productions are

shared between Phoenix and Tucson. November brings incipient madness as LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR runs rabid among the sagebrush and jack-rabbits. In January OTELLO will have all of Arizona foaming at the mouth, and DON GIOVANNI arrives in May, anxious to put the make on every woman in the state.

Currently packing people in is the Santa Fe Opera Festival, a yearly summer musical festival in New Mexico. Depending on which row you sit in, you can experience opera under the stars, and a thick blanket is helpful, too. Last year they presented the premiere of Virgil Thompson's opera, THE MOTHER OF US ALL, a woman's rights opera based on the works of Gertrude Stein, with Mignon Dunn singing the role of Susan B. Anthony, an early American suffragette.

This summer's repertoire includes the American premiere of Nino Rota's opera, THE ITALIAN STRAW HAT, Verdi's FALSTAFF, Debussy's PELLEAS ET MELISANDE, Giordano's verismatic potboiler, FEDORA, with the lovely Evelyn Lear, and Mozart's COSI' FAN TUTTE. Many of the featured performers are American singers on the rise, such as Vinson Cole, Evelyn Petros, Ashley Putnam and Ellen Shade. And there are still some old pros around like Maureen Forrester, Thomas Stewart, Ragnar Ulfung, and the delightful Evelyn Mandac.

That's 20 productions of 18 operas, not counting what the Met hauls out of storage when it goes stomping around the provinces. These all feature exciting casts, excellent direction, and in many cases the chance to see new American talents working their way up the operatic ladder. In some cases you will see operas that the more traditional houses don't want to risk. Innovation and excitement are the keywords to the

opera scene in the Southwest. So loosen your vowels, put on a ten-gallon hat, your best cowboy drag, and head for that land where everything is supposed to be bigger - sometimes even opera!!!

George Heymont

Summer Dance

A cooperative project involving dance companies in the Bay Area will present eight performances at the Palace of Fine Arts Theater, August 4-13. Dance Spectrum, Oakland Ballet, Pacific Ballet and the Xoregos Performing Company are the sponsoring companies and Guest Artists will include: Dimensions Dance Theatre, Mangrove, Margaret Jenkins Dance Company, Oberlin Dance Collective, Rec Russel, and Teatro Flamenco.

Opening night will feature "Song of Nightingale" by Pacific Ballet, "Seascape" by Oakland Ballet, "Shadowfall" by Xoregos Performing Company and "Facets" by Dance Spectrum, as well as special guest artist Rael Lamb performing "Mudbird."

Each program will include repertory by sponsoring companies and a special company performance. Premieres by Carlos Carvajal, Shela Cole, Evelyn Petros, Ashley Putnam and Ellen Shade. And there are still some old pros around like Maureen Forrester, Thomas Stewart, Ragnar Ulfung, and the delightful Evelyn Mandac.

SUMMER DANCE started in 1975 when Dance Spectrum, Pacific Ballet and Xoregos Performing Company pooled management and resources to produce high quality performances and offer employment opportunities for dancers and affiliate workers in the summer. Their first effort was a Gala which was followed last year by a series of four programs, with the Oakland Ballet

and San Francisco Ballet participating as Guest Artists.

Tickets are available by mail from SUMMER DANCE, 44 Page Street, San Francisco 94102; or through Bay Area ticket agencies. For information call (415) 626-1353.

Broadway Dancers

FOR DANCE' SAKE opens at The Hippodrome Theatre, 412 Broadway, on August 8 and is billed as "A Show for Everyone Who Enjoys Entertainment." Young, ebullient dancers in new numbers which acknowledge innovators and sources from which it all began. They coordinate their live routines with exclusive interviews and film clips of dancers who are originators - a teacher-choreographer who has provided material for most of the famous, a performer in the top musical of our era, the man who taps everything but opera and that only not yet, a star.

There's good singing, dinner or snacks available, music for dancing, some surprises and an atmosphere of party. Very San Francisco. Mondays, August 8, 15, 22, 29 - 8:30 PM. All tickets \$5.00 - call 585-8405 or 333-4386.

Love Boat I

The Coits of SF will host a bay cruise for 500 people on Sunday evening, August 14. The theme of the party has been announced with the city-wide appearance of "Love Boat I" posters and flyers.

Tickets for Love Boat I are on sale now at \$15.00 and, following 7PM boarding at Pier 43½, include: live disco dancing by Elyse and Co., a catered buffet, no-host bars, unscheduled recreation, and a commemorative button. The festivities conclude at midnight.

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This is not an easy period in which to live, especially for the television-conditioned young who, unlike their literate elders, cannot take refuge in the zombie trance of Narcissus narcissosis that numbs the state of psychic shock induced by the impact of the new media. From Tokyo to Paris to Columbia, youth mindlessly acts out its identity quest in the theater of the streets, searching not for goals but for roles, striving for an identity that eludes them.

- Marshall McLuhan



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Books

Spartacus International Gay Guide—1977

EDITED BY JOHN D. STAMFORD, 7th EDITION

560 pages (For details write: Spartacus, Box 3496
Amsterdam, Holland)

If you're feeling rather Gay this season and have the itch to travel abroad, you mustn't camp about the globe without a guide to show you where the really out of the way spots can be found.

Unfortunately, the "Spartacus Guide" is no longer distributed in this country. You must send to Amsterdam. (See above.) This edition, which seems the largest ever, is printed in English, German, French and Spanish.

The text is arranged alphabetically and well illustrated with teasing tributes to the male anatomy. Loads of ads announcing all those elusive and exotic restaurants and other places smile at you from almost every other

page. A detailed introduction and directory of codes and symbols greet the avid reader. Especially well prepared is the general sketch of each country. The editor does not hesitate to warn you away from countries where the Gay modes of behavior are not appreciated. Take Libya; "Not even considering the brewing trouble on the Libya-Egyptian frontier, this is one stop-over to cross off your list. Homosexuality carries the death penalty. They play for keeps, and we suggest you stay as far as possible from the sainted shores of Tripoli."

You had better order now before the season rushes by.

Frank J. Howell

Twins

BY BARI WOOD AND JACK GEASLAND
PUTNAM'S

\$8.95—316 PAGES

Incest, we are told, is the ultimate taboo that wreaks horror and havoc on the body politic.

TWINS hits us with a double thrust-homosexual incest between two brothers. Hollywood will probably never scramble for the film rights and even the paperback rights may go begging. This will be a shame. As contemporary novels go, TWINS isn't all that bad. It will not leave any lasting marks on American literature. But Bari Wood, author of the KILLING GIFT, an award-winning novel, and Jack Geasland, a medical writer, have delivered a tale of psychological horror that will keep most of us turning the page. This is a good example of commercial fiction.

David and Michael Ross are identical twins who are raised together in a Jewish middle class family. The parents have high aspirations for their sons and both boys become successful doctors. But throughout all of this lurk psychological overtones of menace. David dominates his brother, Michael, who sometimes wants to escape from David but cannot. A bizarre thread of love and hate binds them together. They cannot seem to establish

separate identities and travel toward their own goals.

We follow their intertwining paths from childhood until the shocking denouement in their early forties. As Michael and David avidly pursue their medical careers, Michael denies his homosexual yearnings for his brother by marrying and attempting to raise a family.

David, in contrast, embraces his Gayness and settles down with a lover. Despite the distance inherent in living in two distant cities, the twins can never remain apart for long. Their underlying compulsion to be together is always fought unsuccessfully. They bury their mutual conflict by using drugs which are easily accessible to them as doctors.

Wood and Geasland fail to make adequately clear the motivation behind the fatal attraction which Michael and David hold for each other. Nevertheless, TWINS will make compulsive reading for those who enjoy kinky sex and dialogue which leaves little to our passionate imaginations. But don't hold your breath for cinematic translation!

Frank J. Howell

Another Kind Of Love: Homosexuality And Spirituality

BY RICHARD WOODS; THOMAS MOORE PRESS
\$3.95 (Paperback), 163 pages

Catholic Gays will not find much that is new anyone who isn't far out here. But the book will be useful for straights and of the closet.

Richard Woods works as a Dominican priest in Chicago where he has served the Gay community for the past six years. He teaches at the Institute of Pastoral Studies, Loyola University. He is also the author of "The Devil," "The Occult Revolution," and "The Media Maze."

Woods is not another John McNeill, but he does manage to effectively communicate the spiritual quality of the loving Gay relationship. He questions, however, those negative qualities of Gay life, such as the one night stand and the obsession with the youth cult. He feels Gays should be able to strike out boldly, establish a stable bond with another person, and obtain the keys to the kingdom at the same time.

One controversial thought expressed by Father Woods will cause fireworks. He finds that certain areas of commercial interest in the Gay community fester alienation between humans. He specifically singles out bars and baths. He correctly predicts that someday a clash will spring up between the religious Gay groups and those who earn their living from certain parts of the homophile community.

In the final pages Woods creatively explores the idea that Gays are "artists of sexuality" and prophets of social criticism. He tells us that,

"... gays do not exist merely to heighten peoples' appreciation of heterosexuality; they no less jarringly propose that male-female relationships can exist on the basis of mere personal attraction, by choice in friendship ("phila") rather than "eros." Such a realization is not only beautiful and valuable in itself, it is also liberating, for it frees us from our fears of same-sex friendships, too.

Frank J. Howell

ORGASMS OF LIGHT: THE GAY SUNSHINE ANTHOLOGY

Edited by Winston Loyland
Gay Sunshine Press, \$6.95
(Order from: Gay Sunshine Press, Box 40397,
San Francisco, CA 94140)

The people at Gay Sunshine Press seldom rest. They have several titles appearing this year. ORGASMS is another collection of poetry, short fiction, and campy illustrations. The book is chiefly poetry of a wide variety, ranging from contemporary to Arabic lyrics of the 12th century in praise of beautiful boys. A free flowing eroticism romps throughout. Pay particular attention to the short story, "Testament: Cairo 1898," by Robin Maugham.

Frank J. Howell

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Gay: What You Should Know About Homosexuality

BY MORTON HUNT
FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX
\$7.95 - 210 PAGES

The San Francisco Board of Education recently announced that the Family Life Education Program will be partially revised to include a more objective view of Gay lifestyles. At the same time, Senator John Briggs is attempting to rid public schools of Gay teachers. The National Gay Task Force has announced a massive program to educate the American people about the true nature of homosexuality. In the next few weeks I will attempt to alert you to new books, hot off the press, that will lead all of us in this direction. The need for such material is now. The hour grows late. GAY will fill at least part of the need for the high school student. This is the first book of which I'm aware that has been written for the curious teenager on this subject. The majority of sex education books tend to pass over quickly the topic of homosexuality with three or four pages of vague commentary that beg most questions that will arise. Morton Hunt has organized his text into a logical, appealing pattern that will answer most inquiries.

In Chapter 1, "The Many Meanings of Homosexuality," he attempts to explode nine myths about the Gay life and emphasizes the many ways of living that are found in the Gay world. In Chapter 2, Hunt deals with causes of sexual orientation to your own sex, and in Chapter 3, the student will find an intelligent discussion of Gay civil rights.

In Chapter 4, our guide deals with the sexual life of Gays. This will no doubt cause concern with many parents. Naturally the teacher must point out that many heterosexuals perform the same acts.

In Chapter 5, the student is enlightened about coming out and the challenges that entails. Here Hunt also explores the difficulties of "Trying not to be Gay" and includes some information on bisexuality.

Chapter 6, "Homosexual Taste," is where Mr. Hunt analyzes camp, Gay creativity and originality. He clears away the confusion surrounding the controversy over whether Gays are more artistic than straights.

Chapter 7, "Queer Gays," and Chapter 8, "Straight Gays," are of particular importance. Here we find a vital distinction between the stereotyped, exaggerated, more public types of Gay life as readily picked up by the media and the style of interaction displayed by the average Gay man or woman who attracts no particular significance.

A simple but accurate glossary and a list of books for further reading are found at the conclusion.

Morton Hunt has spent a lifetime conducting research and writing on psychology, sociology and sex. One of his most popular titles is THE NATURAL HISTORY OF LOVE.

This book will probably infuriate many uptight parents and teachers who resent ANY attempt to provide facts about controversial subjects. Let the Gay Teachers Association take note.

GAY ends in an especially stylish manner by relating the story of a straight couple who are invited to dinner by a Gay male couple. They experience a marvelous evening and everyone embraces at the conclusion of the dinner. Hunt goes on to say:

In their car, driving home, the couple talked about it, and the husband said he hadn't felt at all awkward or strange about hugging each of their hosts. His wife said she was glad, and then added, "I hoped so - especially when Wallie kissed you on the mouth."

Her husband looked at her, astonished; "He did?", he asked. Then, after thinking a moment, he added, "I'll be darned - you're right. I never gave it a second thought."

And that's how it may come to be, between straights and Gays, someday - perhaps even in your time.

Frank J. Howell

Integrity To Hold National Convention

PHILADELPHIA - The 3rd annual national convention of Integrity, an Episcopal Church group

for Gays and their friends, will be held on the campus of the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, August 25 to 28. About 250 delegates from the 30 chapters of Integrity will attend workshops and religious services at the University's Christian Association and St. Mary's (Episcopal) Church.

Integrity, founded in 1974 as a support group, is open to both Episcopalians and non-Episcopalians. Its purpose is to promote the Gospel message of God's love for all creatures. The nation-wide organization, which now has more than 2,000 members, was active in last year's Episcopal General Convention, which authorized a major study of the Christian implications of human sexuality.

"Integrity's 1977 Convention takes on added significance in a year when certain self-appointed fundamentalist interpreters of Scripture have gained national notoriety for their condemnation of Gays," says The Reverend Ronald Wesner, national president of Integrity. "Instead of reacting to ignorance, this convention will address itself to the ethical implications of Gay Christians."

Workshops will cover such topics as "Gothic Dimensions of the Gay Mystique," moderated by Professor William Kintner, "Concerns of Rural Gay People," by Janet Cooper, noted feminist and Gay activist, "Bisexuality," by Dr. William Stayton of the Philadelphia Marriage Council, and "Trans-sexuality," by Roberta Dickinson, Philadelphia artist and former teacher at Drexel University, who is herself a transsexual. Barbara Gittings, nationally known as a Gay activist and a recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Award at the 1976 Convention, will present a series of educational films about the Gay experience.



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Exodus Brainwash

by Paul Bernardino

The tactics and style may change, but the message is the same: Gay love and sex are "VERY SINFUL" according to the new interdenominational group called Exodus which held its 2nd international convention June 27 thru July 1 at Shiloh Christian Temple in Oakland, California.

The conference convened 21 workshops conducted by ex-homosexuals to indoctrinate other Gay converts to make their "exodus" to either Christian supremacist heterosexuality or else remain strictly "chaste." Each delegate and observer to Exodus' week-long conference paid \$15, or \$3 per day, to attend. In the name of Leviticus-Jewish civil law, Jesus and St. Paul, Exodus has developed into another form of oppression against Gay women, men and anyone who believes in the benefits of a free and open mind and spirit.

Exodus is a chain network of right wing fundamentalists and in ministry and "counseling" work by ex-homosexuals to go out and "save" the Gay community and "backsliders" from homosexual "sins." Exodus is based on the old, literal interpretation of the Old and New Testaments.

Exodus' closed "ministry" into the San Francisco Bay Area around May 1977 at the following associate centers: 19th Avenue Baptist Church (Southern Baptist) Love in Action, San Francisco, Scott Cox, director; Church of The Open Door, pastor, Rev. Kent Phillipot, San Rafael, Calif.; Love In Action, Rev. Frank Worthen, San Rafael; Shiloh Christian Temple, Oakland. Monthly or bi-monthly workshops and "spiritual clinics" are attended by 10-20 Gay men and women at these centers. Exodus has also expanded into other cities under the following agencies: Exit, James Casper, Anaheim, Calif.; Theophilus, Las Vegas, Nevada; Good News, New Orleans, La.; Eagle, El Paso, Texas; Liberation, Fairfax, Virginia; The Kings Ministry, Denver, Colorado. The group therapy and publications that these Exodus centers promote are designed to deprogram homosexuals. Deprogram? Yes, as if they were alcoholics returning from an unholy fling of years past.

Exodus was formed in September 1976 by "ex-homosexuals," mostly Christian clergy and laity at a conference at Melodyland. Hotline Center in Anaheim, Calif. About 60 "ex-Gay" delegates from all over the world (mostly the U.S.) paid out \$80 each to attend. This was before the hysterical anti-Gay campaigner and demagogue Anita Bryant began preaching her fear, lies and hate to "Save Our Children from Homosexuality." The American Heritage Dictionary defines a demagogue as "a leader who obtains power by means of appeals to emotions and prejudices." Many of Exodus people call Anita Bryant "our sister in the Lord."

Exodus expanded its Exodus' Love In Action

A Gay Primer



The photographs of Hal Fischer present "A Conceptual Approach to the Visual Aspects of Gay Lifestyles" at the Lawson de Celle Gallery, 54 Kissling Street. The Gallery is open from 11am - 5pm, Tuesday through Saturday. Now through August 27.

meetings at the Nineteenth Avenue Baptist Church in San Francisco. These meetings were typical of Exodus methods: quasi-secretive, closed, tightly controlled, group therapy-brainwashing sessions. Dissenting theological views were discouraged and debating on Gay issues, both spiritual and secular, was forbidden. The meetings I attended were chaired by handsome young Scott Cox and co-chaired by Rev. Frank Worthen. Each 2½ hour session began with an informal prayer, buffet dinner for about 15 to 20 people, mostly young (25-35 years old), all supposedly reformed homosexuals. The dinner concluded with prayers, singing from Baptist hymnals with

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piano accompaniment, Bible study relating to homosexuality and "conversion to Christ" as they say. Personal testimonies volunteered from anyone in the group, a few strong assurances from Worthen and Cox to the personal testimonials, a few more readings from scripture, prayer requests, announcements about Exodus, its publications

and cassette tapes series, coming events, and organizational developments. The meetings concluded with everyone standing in a circle holding hands then verbalizing spontaneous prayers in turn. In one of the concluding supplications to God, Scott Cox prayed that the Gay newspapers (such as Advocate, B.A.R., Sentinel, Gay Crusader) would

"come to see the light and accept Christ" and bow down to Exodus, Inc.

Exodus' member Church of the Open Door, led by founder Rev. Kent Philpot, with other supporting church groups (about 100 people in all) from Marin County picketed the San Francisco City Hall on June 2. These were churches from other cities that came over to poke their "pure" Christian noses into the secular politics of San Francisco. The Exodus Church of the Open Door and the others also picketed that day against the S.F. Board of Education decision to include studies of Gay lifestyles in its public school classes on Health and Family Life.

Exodus and its associate centers, such as The Church of the Open Door, Love In Action, San Rafael; Love In Action, San Francisco; Shiloh Temple, Oakland, and Exit, Anaheim, are callous and incompetent ministries that feed on people's fears, ignorance and psychoses. The subtle, neurotic Christian guilt trip they propagate presents more problems to its homosexual patients than it solves.

Los Angeles Gay activist Morris Knight said of

Exit (an Exodus agency there): "I worry that they may catch young people just as they are coming out and confuse them... Such repressed homosexuality could lead to alcoholism, drug abuse and mental illness." Some Gay people who have been through the Exodus deprogramming wringer say they are religious charlatans undeserving of the title "Christian." One Gay person with whom I spoke recently said he was so confused about his sexuality after the Exodus deprogrammers had finished with him that he tried to commit suicide.

Jesus himself taught nothing against Gay love. Gay love advances peace and brotherhood throughout the world. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God. Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice's sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven..." Matthew 5, 9-10. Homosexuality and Gay love are good, natural, beautiful, beneficial and necessary to society and Christianity. "Where there is charity and love, God is present there also," St. John.

In a sense the Gay liberation movement is a spiritual descendant of historic Christianity and an invigorated heir of its great dream and work

toward a visible community of love, brotherhood and sisterhood for all people and nations. We Gay people should be daring enough in the future to create a new positive identity - a new awareness of human potential. This is truly the contribution the Gay liberation movement can make to the progress of the individual person and society. We are pilgrims in exodus out of a land of bondage. We as an assertive Gay revolutionary force are an eschatological community and a new prophetic witness in the world. We are a new sacramental presence replacing the old, risen out of a "land of broken symbols."

Gay people can take their rightful place to build a new world order; where with love, understanding and justice, there is neither Christian nor Jew, neither Greek nor Roman, neither male nor female, neither "homosexual" nor "heterosexual" and neither slave nor master, but where all are as one and equal in a classless, androgynous, socialist democracy.

S.O.H.R. News

The Human Rights Organization now being formed in Hayward will hold its monthly meeting August 10 at 7:30 PM in Room 4 of the Centennial Hall in Hayward. All are invited. For information call the Turf Club in Hayward (881-9877) and ask for Jack or Jim.

UNITARIAN GAY

CAUCUS CALENDAR

UNITARIAN GROWTH EVENT OF 1977

On Saturday, August 20, beginning at noon come experience a smorgasbord of nine growth leaders including Stan Dale and Bob Hoffman, concluding with a free wine and cheese reception. At 7:30 PM experience a disco dance lesson and dancing. At the Unitarian Center, 1187 Franklin St., SF, 841-6500 x456.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

"ROLES AND OPPRESSION." Rev. Diane Miller will lead a discussion of the social roles which men in this society feel compelled to follow and how these roles affect women and other men. Insight on role oppression gained in the women's movement can help men view their roles in a new light.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

"ACLU AND GAY RIGHTS." Paul Newton, acting president of the Northern California chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, will speak. His subject is "ACLU: Gay Rights and You." Long a defender of minorities in this country, ACLU has been involved heavily in Gay issues. A recently formed ACLU chapter in Northern California now focuses on Gay rights.

The Sunday meetings of the U.U. Gay Caucus are at 10:00 AM at the First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin at Geary, San Francisco.

Cable Car Awards: Parade Nominees

The Gay Parade nominating committee of the 1977 Cable Car Awards have announced the Gay Parade nominees for the Awards this year. They are as follow:

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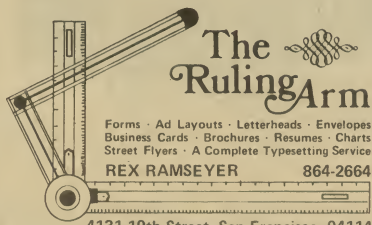
The Coits of San Francisco, Emperor Hector & the Council of Emperors, Gay Fathers, MCC Church & the Silver Dollar Court of Reno

NON-FLOAT ENTRANTS

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The Awards will be held in February of 1978.

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BOB ROSS

LETTER FROM MAYOR MOSCONE

To San Francisco's Gay Community:

I want to thank and congratulate all those who participated in the Gay Pride Day parade in San Francisco.

This important event showed the nation that the San Francisco Gay Community comports itself with dignity and respect for the law. I believe the contrast between our Gay Pride Day parade and the shrill bigotry which recently erupted in Dade County speaks eloquently for itself.

San Francisco is showing the nation that citizens should never be victimized by discrimination based on sexual preference, or any other criteria - and that we MUST rally together to continue the struggle for justice and equal rights. I am proud that our Gay community turned out in such record numbers and demonstrated to the country that San Franciscans have learned how to live with one another in peace and respect.

Sincerely,
George R. Moscone
Mayor



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RELIGION

GOOD NEWS FROM M.C.C.

by Pastor Chuck Larsen

From its inception in 1968, Metropolitan Community Church has proclaimed the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to our Gay community. From its beginning, some in our community preferred not to hear the Good News and that's okay!

At no time has M.C.C. declared that everyone has to relate to God according to the beliefs and practices that our Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches subscribes to. But to those who were brought up with the Christian teachings, or those who later in life felt a need to draw closer to God, M.C.C. offers one way of relating to God.

M.C.C. San Francisco began in February of 1970 and met in the upper room of the original Jackson's Restaurant. Over the years, M.C.C. has held regular worship services at such places as California Hall, the S.I.R. Center, and St. Aidan's in Diamond Heights. In 1973 we were burned out of our church home on Guerrero Street. Since then we have been meeting at the Mission United Presbyterian Church at 23rd and Capp Streets, one block off Mission.

Our worship services reflect our unique newness as a Christian Community, and here we proclaim that God does not discriminate against any person, and hopefully, we don't either.

While this first article is mostly biographical, I will address important issues in our community and will offer my opinions and views as a Christian minister.

THE POOP ON POPPERS

Reprinted from GC News, Chicago Journal, June, 1977
By Dr. Louis Parliash, M.D.

There is a scene in the popular movie classic, *Dinner at Eight*, that never fails to generate titters in a certain segment of the audience. Lionel Barrymore, pressured by a failing business, has had a spell, and he orders the nurse to bring him some amyl nitrate.

In the early Forties, when the movie was made, amyl nitrate was used as a strong smelling salts. Even though it's primary pharmacologic action is not that of a stimulant, a brief whiff seemed to revive (perhaps by shocking) a person who had suffered an attack of the "vapors". For this reason, it was kept in first aid stations and even funeral homes. It could be bought without a prescription in a drug store, but it was rarely asked for.

It's only real medicinal value was for relief of angina pectoris, the chest pain that results when the blood supply to the muscular wall of the heart becomes insufficient. It has been used as a short acting vasodilator for this condition for over a hundred years and has the advantage of affording quick relief. After inhalation, it is absorbed into the blood stream from the lungs and its "rush" is felt in seconds.

Like its chemical cousin, nitroglycerin, amyl belongs to a group of drugs known as nitrites, which have the pharmacologic effect of relaxing smooth muscle (muscle over which there is no voluntary control). Smooth muscles are found in most organs of the body, but the smooth muscles most affected by the nitrites are those in the walls of the blood vessels.

This vasodilating effect is responsible for amyl's gaining a reputation as a sexual stimulant. It produces a dramatic flushing of the skin of the face, neck and upper shoulders (the blush zone). As small vessels relax throughout the body, the blood pressure falls. Trying to compensate for this, the heart beats rapidly but the strokes are not strong enough to insure adequate circulation. The blood flow to the brain becomes inadequate and the resulting anoxia produces a lightheadedness.

A flushed face a racing heart and a giddy sensation give the feeling of heightened sexuality. Amyl nitrate fans claim that "poppers" serve the dual purpose of putting them more out of it and at the same time putting them more into it. Perhaps the relaxation of smooth muscles is reflected in reduced tension throughout the body.

Other aphrodisiac qualities are claimed for poppers. Although the sphincters of the anus and vagina are skeletal (voluntary) muscles, both structures are surrounded by smooth muscle fibers, which amyl can relax, making penetration easier and less painful. There are also anecdotal reports that orgasms

are fuller, due perhaps to the relaxation of the smooth muscles controlling the ejaculation.

But the trip on amyl is not always good. Especially in people with hypertension, the fall in blood pressure may be so precipitous and the circulation in the brain so compromised that the person faints. If he is standing, he may even fall and hurt himself. However, this is rare; intolerance of sensitivity to amyl nitrate is more likely to result in nausea, vomiting, cold sweat and weakness.

It is also possible that the compensatory tachycardia (fast heart rate) can confuse the heart's natural pace-maker, causing palpitations and irregularities in rhythm that can last for more than half an hour.

A more frequent unpleasant effect of amyl nitrate is headache. This probably results from dilation of the blood vessels in the sheath that covers the brain. The headache, usually not noticed until the rush is over, may require aspirin or other pain relievers before it abates. Since the amount of blood circulating in the brain is reduced, there is no reason to believe the rumor that poppers burst capillaries in the cerebral tissue.

The vessels in the retina of the eye are also dilated along with the cerebral anoxia, and that may explain some of the reported visual effects. It has also been postulated, but not proved, that amyl can aggravate glaucoma, a disorder due to increased pressure in the eyeball.

A risk that has a strong psychological factor is the possibility of bodily harm. Under the influence of amyl nitrate, a person can become so carried away in his wanton abandonment that he does or permits done to him things that later on he realizes have been painful or injurious.

A final undesirable side effect is the loss of or difficulty in maintaining an erection. This does not happen to everyone and may vary from time to time with the same individual. This could be the result of the loss of smooth muscle tone in the penis or a drainage of the blood from the erectile tissues as the body adjusts to lowered blood pressure. Such an experience does not enhance the reputation of poppers as a sexual stimulant.

Considering the pharmacologic effects of amyl nitrate, are poppers dangerous? As of now, any answer must be hypothetical. Since the medical establishment has only recently become aware of the use of amyl nitrate as an aphrodisiac, it is unlikely any statistical studies have even been started. So experience must serve as the guideline.

It is the experience of most physicians familiar with the "illicit" use of amyl nitrate that, even though untoward effects are possible, they have been amazingly rare. The dangers of



sniffing a popper are probably much less than taking an aspirin or for that matter, going for a drive in a car. However, this analogy must be qualified.

Who uses poppers and how they are used influences the risk. One or two inhalations by a healthy person right before orgasm is much less likely to cause problems than someone with hypertension or a cardiac irregularity maintaining a high for an evening of fun and games in the bedroom or living room. (Poppers are reported to be good for giggles as well as sex.)

Not only the length of time amyl nitrate is used, but also the frequency of its use can be a determinant of its potential danger. People can develop a popper habit. This may have psychological as well as physical repercussions. Having sex without a popper becomes increasingly difficult, often to the point of undermining a partner's feeling of sexual competence.

But for most people, the popper experience is a temporary fad. They are fun for a while, but after a few exciting sexual experiences without them, they are used only for an occasional kick. Many others do not get beyond the first whiff or two. They dislike or fear the physical changes they experience.

But what about those who like an occasional popper? If the risk/benefit ratio is so low, why are poppers available only on prescription? The answer lies somewhere in the convoluted relationship between governmental policies and social mores.

But as the profits increased, so did the guilt of the manufacturers. Finally, the FDA became persuaded that amyl nitrate was being abused; that is, used for purposes (probably pleasurable) other than its specific scientific indication. Amyl nitrate was declared a prescription drug. So if your doctor refuses to write you an Rx for poppers, try to understand he is not rejecting you, he is simply respecting the law.

The fact that the danger of amyl nitrate is minimal is supported by the seemingly unrestricted sale of butyl nitrite. Its pharmacological effects - good and bad - are similar to those of amyl but, in general, less intense. But in using it, remember that it too has the possibility, if not the probability, of danger. It is a highly volatile chemical. Spills, particularly on the skin or near an ashtray or burning cigarette, must be carefully avoided.

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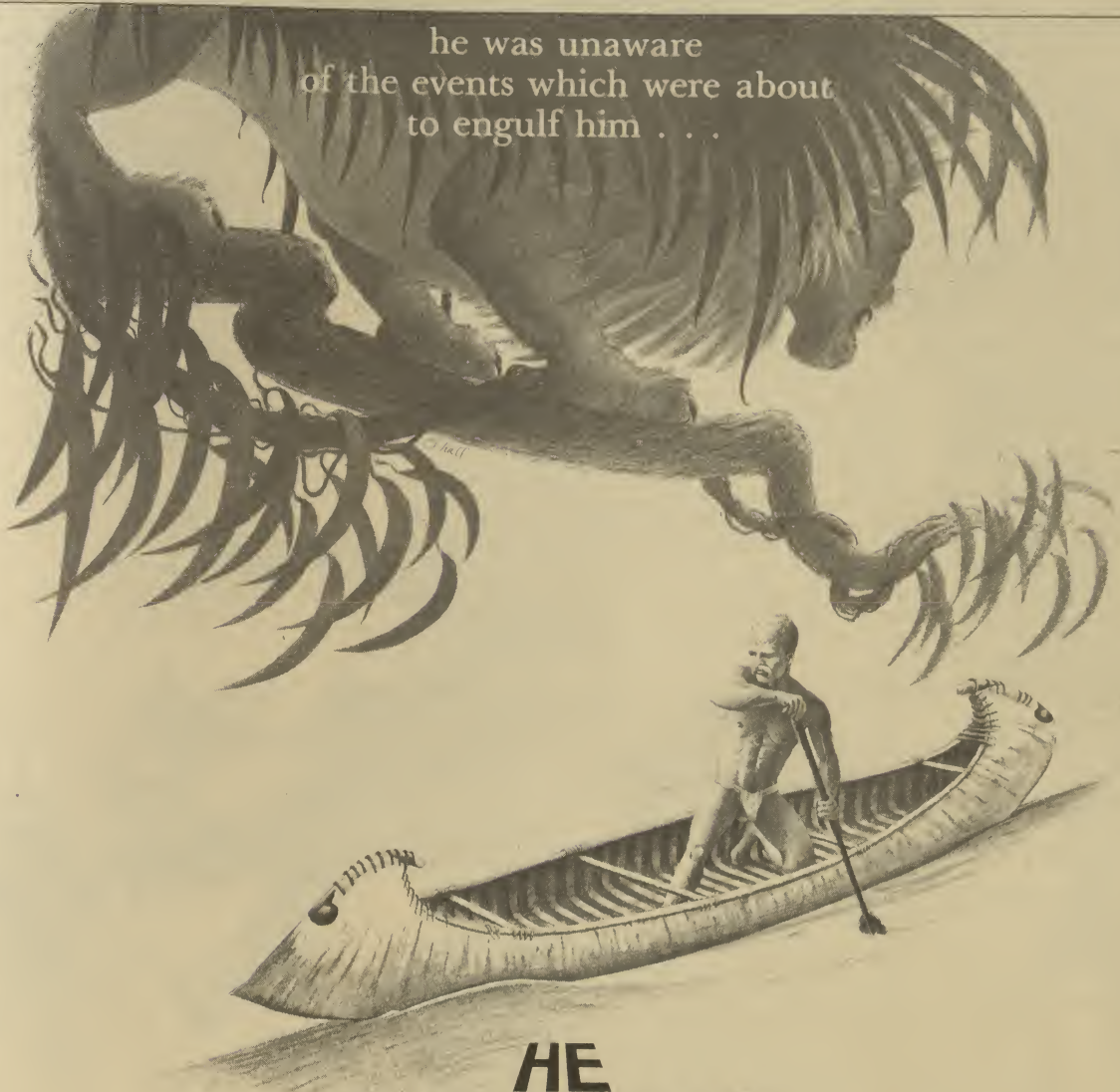
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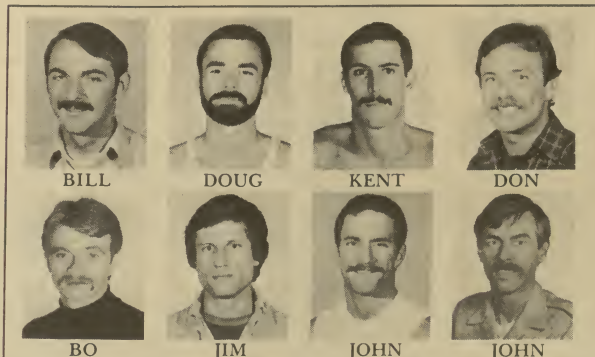
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